Lions Clubs conducts beach cleanup. PAGE 2
Marcos urged to declare July 12 as West Philippine Sea National Day. PAGE 4

Hafa Adai!

$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXIV, Issue No. 139

www.saipantribune.com | FRIDAY JULY 12, 2024 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

Palacios: Admin committed to the Health Network Program

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Palacios

The revised fiscal year 2025 budget proposed by the Office of the Governor remains unchanged and its allocation to the Health Network Program (formerly known as the Medical Referral Program) remains at $800,000. However, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios assures that should resources become available, programs like HNP remains at the top of the administration's list of priorities.

See PALACIOS on Page 4

ON SUBPOENA VS CNMI TREASURER OVER ARPA FUNDS

DOF: Agulto stands ready

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Norita

Department of Finance Secretary Tracy Norita, in response to a subpoena against CNMI Treasurer Asuncion S. Agulto regarding a trust account that was opened by the previous

See DOF on Page 4

Government power in the US is a swirl of checks and balances

AP
People protest outside the Supreme Court Monday, July 1, 2024, in Washington.

By DEEPTI HAJELA
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—The delegates at the 1787 Constitutional Convention were trying to create a new governing framework for the fledging United States of America. They knew they

See POWER on Page 4

Man gets $50K bail after series of domestic violence outbursts

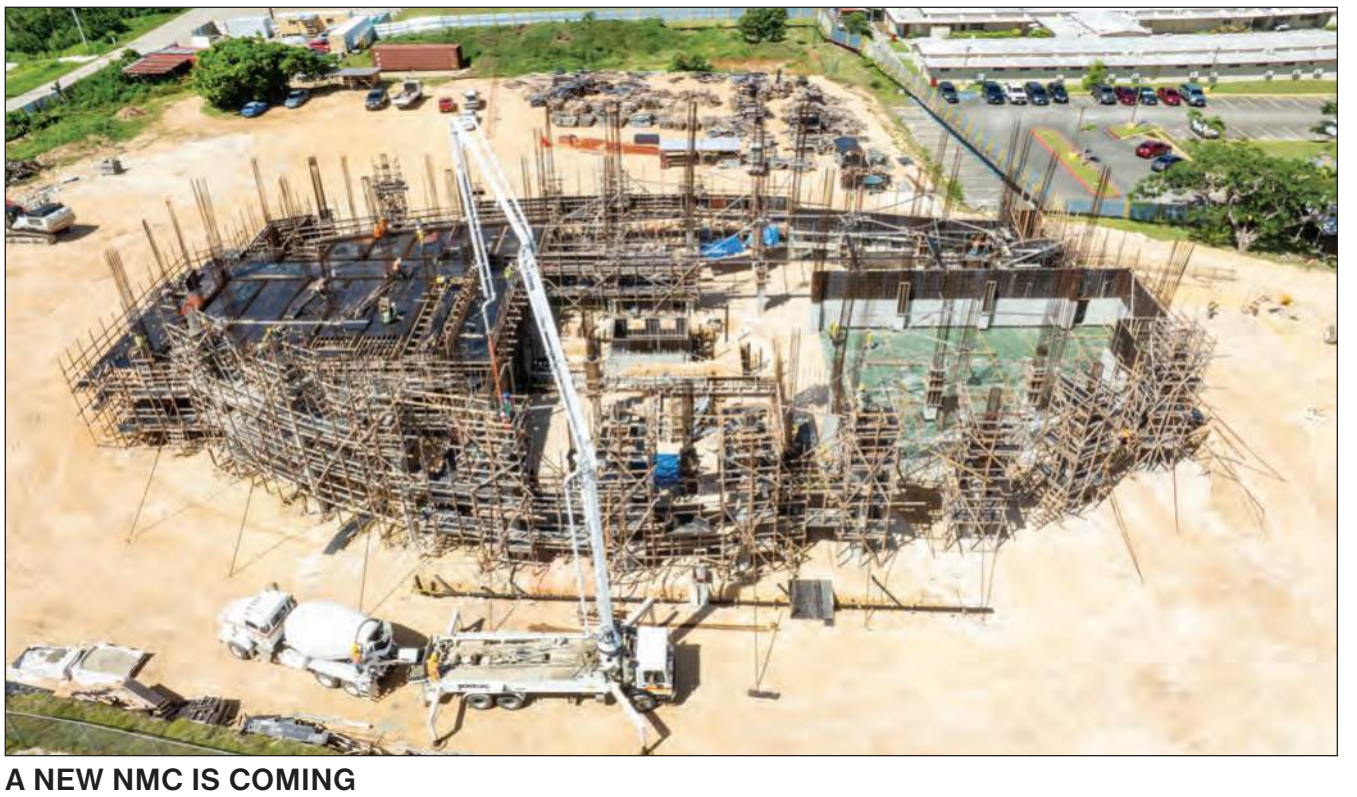
CHRYSTAL MARINO
Michael Sylvan Olaitiman is escorted back to the Department of Corrections following his bail hearing yesterday at the Superior Court in Susupe.

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Superior Court has imposed a $50,000 cash bail on a man accused of assaulting a woman and her child.

After his arrest last Wednesday, Michael Sylvan

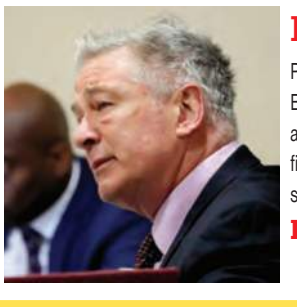
See MAN on Page 4


A NEW NMC IS COMING
Construction continues for the new Student Center at Northern Marianas College. The building is scheduled for completion in 2025. Funding for the building comes from the U.S. Department of Education, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the U.S. Department of Interior-Office of Insular Affairs.

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Guam Regional Medical City proudly commemorates its 9th anniversary throughout July with a series of events designed to celebrate with its employees and the local community.
PAGE 13

NATION
President Joe Biden's imperiled reelection campaign hit new trouble Wednesday as House Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi said merely "it's up to the president to decide" if he should stay in the race.
PAGE 14



LIFE & STYLE
Prosecutors sought to cast Alec Baldwin as someone who flouts rules and has little regard for safety at the first day of his New Mexico trial in the shooting of a cinematographer.
PAGE 15

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RACQUEL FLOYD
Lions Clubs International District 204 Region 2 members pose for a group photo after the first beach cleanup for the lion year 2024-2025 last Saturday in Carolinian Utt Garapan.

Local

Lions Clubs conduct beach cleanup

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD
raxfloyd@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Lions Clubs International District 204 Region 2 held its monthly beach cleanup last Saturday morning in the Garapan area.

Last Saturday marked the start of the region beach cleanup for the lion year 2024-2025, and 60 members participated in the monthly beach cleanup from Garapan Fishing Base to Carolinian Utt. According to the new leadership of Region 2, the monthly beach cleanup schedule will be modified.

Lions Clubs International District 204 Region is made up of 12 clubs, with each club membership numbers ranging from 20-60, which is why it was divided into three zones. Last year, the monthly beach cleanup was done as a region project, but with the

See LIONS on Page 3

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RACQUEL FLOYD

From left, past zone chair Argie Buesnsalido, second vice district governor Eden Mercado, zone chair Arceli Lizama, past region chair Annamae Adaza, past district governor Atoy Banting, and the new region chair Marcelo Masilungan during the recognition of the past region 2 leaders.

RACQUEL FLOYD

Some of Xtreme Fitness 670 members receive certificates of appreciation for leading the Liberation Day Parade last week.

LIONS

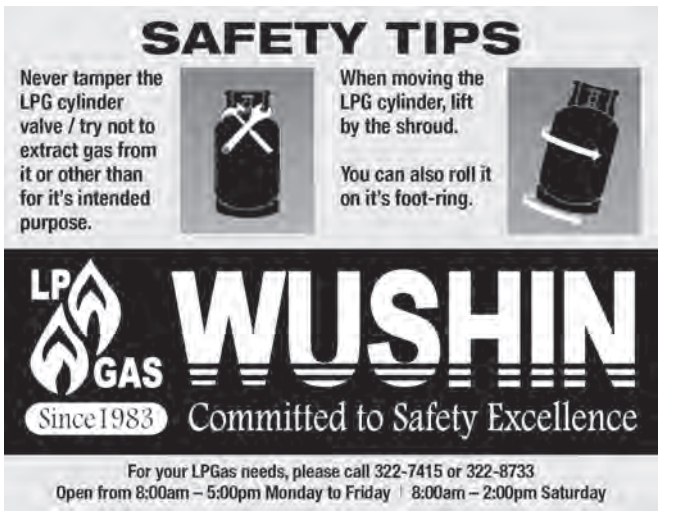
From page 2

new schedule, after last Saturday, for the next month it will alternately be done per zone and the region cleanup will resume after, and this will be the cycle for the whole lion year, according to new region chair Marcelo Masilungan.

"Each club has its own adopted pavilion or bus stop, we don't want to burden all clubs to show up every month at a beach cleanup, we did alternate so each club will be able to do their own Lions Clubs International global causes on their own separate region projects, we will promote and empower more leaders, healthy clubs, because I believe healthy members, healthy clubs equal to a healthy district," said Masilungan.

Following the cleanup, a breakfast gathering took place with the region chairman welcoming members to the new lion year and recognizing the past region chair Annamae Adaza, as well as past zone chairs Argie Buensalido and Arceli Lizama.

The activity was concluded with the awarding of certificates of appreciation to Xtreme Fitness 670 for leading the Lions Clubs' parade at last week's Liberation Day Parade.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INVITATION TO BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-ITB-013-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 12, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"SALE OF SURPLUS GOVERNMENT VEHICLES"

THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) INVITES BIDDERS TO BID ON THE SALE OF SURPLUS GOVERNMENT VEHICLES LOCATED AT THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND SEAPORT.

THE BID PACKAGE WHICH INCLUDES BID PROCEDURES AND CONDITIONS OF SALE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING JUNE 26, 2024 AT THE CPA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND ONE (1) COPY OF THEIR BIDS IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SALE OF SURPLUS GOVERNMENT VEHICLES **(ITB-013-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JULY 12, 2024.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-012-24
SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 16, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) BRAND NEW 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK TO THE BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP BEGINNING JUNE 13, 2024 AT THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT UPON PAYMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100. PAYMENT SHALL BE MADE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, CREDIT CARD, OR U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDER. ALL APPLICANTS SHALL PAY THE $100.00 TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THE BID.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF ONE (1) BRAND NEW PICK-UP TRUCK TO THE BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT **(IFB-012-24)**" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR **BEFORE 2:00 P.M., JULY 16, 2024. A 10% BID BOND OR CASHIER'S CHECK PAYABLE TO CPA SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID DOCUMENTS.** BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

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INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-014-24

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 30, 2024: 2:00 P.M.

"REPAIRS OF TYPHOON MAWAR DAMAGES AT THE BTM ROTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT"

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING JUNE 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $50.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

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THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

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DATE: _____

Marcos urged to declare July 12 as West Philippine Sea National Day

On July 12, 2016, the Philippines achieved a historic victory at the Arbitral Tribunal regarding our sovereign rights over the West Philippine Sea. This landmark ruling not only affirmed our country's territorial claims but also served as a testament to the resilience and determination of the Filipino people in defending their sovereignty.

The National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea, a peaceful, non-partisan and transglobal organization that has been advocating for the preservation of Philippine sovereignty and territorial integrity since 2015, sent a letter dated July 8, 2024 to Philippine President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., and urgently requesting him to declare July 12 as the West Philippine Sea National Day as a symbol of national pride and sovereignty of the Philippines.

"In light of this monumental event, we are respectfully requesting your esteemed office to declare July 12 as the "West Philippine Sea National Day" and designate it as a national holiday. Commemorating this day annually will not only honor our victory but also serves to remind every Filipino of the importance of our territorial integrity and the rich natural resources within our maritime boundaries," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, founder and global chairperson of the National Youth Movement for the West Philippine Sea.

Celebrating West Philippine Sea National Day will foster a greater sense of national unity and pride. It will educate citizens about the significance of this ruling and encourage the continuous defense of the country's territorial and sovereign rights. Moreover, incorporating this important date into the national calendar will solidify the commitment to safeguarding the Philippines' sovereignty for future generations.

"This proposal aligns with our ongoing efforts to promote awareness and education about the West Philippine Sea, as highlighted in our proposal for the inclusion of the West Philippine Sea topics in the K to 12 curricula as well as integration of such topics in the post-secondary education courses. These educational initiatives will undoubtedly empower our youth with knowledge about their heritage and the importance of our maritime domains," added Lamkin.

"The victory of our West Philippine Sea is the victory of every Filipino," quoted by Lamkin on July 12, 2016 when the Philippines won at the Arbitral Tribunal against China's Nine-Dash Line claim in the West Philippine Sea, part of South China Sea.

Maverick Paul Bersalona, NYMWPS National chair, said "We are confident that under your leadership, we can continue to uphold and defend the sovereignty of the Philippines and sovereign rights in our West Philippine Sea."

Lamkin concluded, "By commemorating July 12 as a national holiday, we celebrate not only a legal triumph, but also our collective strength and unity as a nation." ***(PR)***

POWER

From page 1

needed SOMEONE to be at the helm of the federal government.

Someone had to be in position to see that the laws legislated by Congress "be faithfully executed," to make treaties, to be the military's commander-in-chief, to preside over the nation. You know, a president.

But they didn't want to risk creating a new autocrat. After all, they had just fought a war to get away from one. Many of the fundamental responsibilities—making laws, collecting taxes, declaring war—were put under the purview of Congress, itself split into two chambers as a way to manage authority among the states. The federal judiciary, the Supreme Court, was also made independent. The powers would be balanced.

Where something starts, though, isn't always where it stays, as America's history since the convention that created the U.S. Constitution shows. Through the centuries, as the country expanded from 13 states to 50, as the roles and responsibilities of government expanded through wars and social change and changing global realities, the powers that the branches of government pushed to have for themselves and in relation to each other have made checks and balances a moving target.

A new development in the realm of presidential power

That was on display yet again this month, when the Supreme Court displayed its own power as it ended a hugely significant term with a 6-3 decision that in turn broadened presidential power by saying former presidents had widespread immunity from criminal prosecution for acts undertaken while they were in office.

For the framers of the Constitution, "generally the idea was, we need each of the branches to be strong enough to protect themselves against being overwhelmed by the others," says Andrew Rudalevige, professor of government at Bowdoin College.

That meant including things like presidential veto power over legislation, and also the 2/3 majority vote from the houses of Congress that could override that veto.

But in comparison to Congress in the country's early years, "the presidency was a very weak institution," says Benjamin Ginsberg, professor of political science at Johns Hopkins University, who pointed out that Congress initially didn't even give the president money to pay for household staff.

Framers "knew you needed an executive. They knew that, for example, if the country was attacked, you couldn't wait for Congress to convene and decide what to do, you needed someone who could act," he says. "On the other hand, they were very concerned about creating a king."

Of course, those holding the office weren't willing to be mere caretakers. Article II of the Constitution said executive power would be vested in the president but didn't specify what those powers specifically were, and so presidents began to define them. Rudalevige cites Andrew Jackson, who expanded how and when veto power was used during his presidency.

PALACIOS

From page 1

According to the budget proposal submitted by the Office of the Governor to the Legislature, the proposed budget for the HNP program remains at $800,000, despite the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. previously expressing that it may not suffice.

In an interview with Palacios, he expressed that his administration remains committed to the program adding that should resources become available in FY2025, the program would be a priority.

"We are committed to the HNP. Healthcare needs, especially for those who need to go off-island for medical care, it's not something we walk away from. We will continue to monitor that and as resources become available, we are going to make sure that we give programs like this priority," he said.

Previously, CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña submitted a letter to House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) requesting funding for the HNP program.

Public Law 22-33, which returned the HNP program to CHCC, allows the corporation to submit a funding request to the governor and the Legislature if the appropriated funding has been exhausted prior to the end of the fiscal year.

In this case, not only was the appropriated funding insufficient, CHCC had to put up its own funds to keep the program going.

In her letter to Villagomez, Muña said as of March 31, 2024, the year-to-date expenditures for the program amounted to $2.3 million.

Muna, in her letter, notes that of the $797,711 that the FY2024 budget law appropriated to HNP, only $655,470 has been transferred.

According to Muña, based on CHCC's annualized expenditures, the total projected expenditure for HNP for FY 2024 is expected to be around $4.6 million.

Muña said to ensure the smooth continuation of the program, CHCC has already advanced $1.6 million of its own funds to augment the funding shortfall for HNP.

CHCC asked the Legislature for an additional funding of $3.8 million to sustain the activities of the HNP and to return CHCC's funds to its own coffers.

MAN

From page 1

Olaitiman, 43, made an appearance in the courtroom of Associate Judge Lillian Tenorio in Susupe yesterday, under the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Facing charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and kidnapping, a $50,000 bail was posted for Olaitiman, and a preliminary hearing was set on July 17, 2024 at 9am. An arraignment hearing was also scheduled on July 22, 2024 at 9am.

Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas will be appearing on behalf of the CNMI government, while Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig is the public defense attorney appointed for Olaitiman.

After the hearing, Olaitiman was remanded back to DOC.

According to court documents, on Jan. 3, 2024, Suprerior Court Associate Kim 'Tenorio signed an order of protection against Olaitiman. The order expires on Jan. 3, 2025. The order states that Olaitiman shall not molest, attack, strike, threaten, sexually assault, batter, call via telephone, or disturb the peace of the victim and minor children, but on June 27, 2024, at approximately 7:43pm, the Department of Public Safety dispatched units to a disturbance reported at Isla Villas in Capital Hill.

According to the report, officers responded and met with the victim at the Governor's Office parking lot on Capital Hill, where she disclosed that there is an active order of protection against Olaitiman and requested his removal from her residence at Isla Villas.

She further explained that Olaitiman was at the apartment with her son and she had let him in out of fear after he threatened to kill her and harm the child. Upon arrival at the apartment, officers were informed that Olaitiman had jumped off the balcony.

On Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at around 11:25am, officers conducted a follow-up interview with the victim at her home at Isla Villas.

The victim recounted that on Saturday, June 15, 2024, Olaitiman had sent her two messages: One was a picture of her niece, and the other was a picture of her son, accompanied by a threat to harm both children if she did not let him in. Later that day, Olaitiman sent another menacing message, stating, "If I have to find a way in there, I will kill you in front of the kids." Terrified, she opened the door. Once inside, Olaitiman seized her cell phone from the kitchen counter, threw it on the floor, and smashed it repeatedly with a metal object resembling a hammer until it broke.

The victim described that on Father's Day, June 16, 2024, Olaitiman slept most of the day, waking between 4pm and 5pm. Upon waking, he was irritable and began accusing her of infidelity. Despite her denials, Olaitiman grew increasingly agitated, eventually holding a knife to her neck. He only relented when she continued to assert her innocence.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

DOF

From page 1

administration using American Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of $225 million, said a subpoena was never required as Agulto stands ready to answer any questions.

Last Monday, a Senate special committee on the Bank of Guam investment account ($225 million) and ARPA spending plans for the CNMI voted in favor of issuing a subpoena against Agulto to answer questions regarding a trust account opened by the previous administration using ARPA funds in the amount of $225 million.

During a budget hearing before the House Special Committee on Ways and Means, Norita said DOF's doors are open and a subpoena was never required for the Legislature to get information needed.

"The DOF has always tried to be as responsive as possible to the requests of the Legislature. A subpoena was never required for us to provide or open up our doors for any meeting regarding any documentation requests," she said.

In addition, Norita said DOF received an Open Government Act request from the Senate pertaining to the investment account and all bank statements have been provided. However, Nortia said Agulto stands ready if the Senate has additional questions.

"An OGA request was submitted to our office regarding the investment account, and we provided all the bank statements and related material to that senate request. If further questions need to be asked, director [Agulto] stands ready," she said.

Previously, Senate President Edith DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) made an Open Government Act request to the Department of Finance regarding any information about the trust account that was opened by the previous administration using ARPA funds in the amount of $225 million.

The Senate president said it was important to know which funds are still available to provide necessary services to the people.

Last April, Norita said the ARPA funds were deposited in the Bank of Guam in 2021 but were depleted in 2022.

Sen. Karl King-Nabors (R-Tinian), who chairs the special committee dedicated to this matter, said the Senate president wrote Norita a letter on April 19, seeking her cooperation by providing a written authorization for the bank to release requested documents. However, he said, "no response has been received" from the Finance secretary.

Since the special committee was created, King-Nabors said they have reviewed all the documents provided by Finance.

King-Nabors said the committee is now in a position to bring in several witnesses for questioning.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Democrat Sen. Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas poses with his staff as he opens his office for the Be Heartfelt's 4th Annual Shoe Drive.

San Nicolas opens Hagåtña office for Be Heartfelt's Shoe Drive

To support its mission of helping children in need, Democrat Sen. Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas has opened his office for Be Heartfelt's 4th Annual Shoe Drive, as a new school year looms.

"It is truly a win-win for the children," said Lori Marsh Marble, CEO, Be Heartfelt. "Partnership means two people listening to each other and working together to accomplish a common goal. I believe when we use our abilities, strengths and skills to our best, we will have good results.

Good results mean less kids with nothing to wear on their first day of school. We all need to work together to give support to our next generation."

Nonprofit Be Heartfelt has a mission to end the next generation of homelessness in Guam, serving youth on the island. Other than Guam, it also serves communities in Peru, Kansas, the Philippines, and Palau.

"Our heart for this donation drive is to ensure that every child in need has the opportunity to choose from one or two pairs of shoes, providing them with options that fit well and suit their preferences," she said. "We believe that every child deserves to have a pair of shoes that not only meets their basic needs but also brings them joy and comfort."

San Nicolas has established a drop off site, accepting donations of new and or gently used closed toe shoes from July 8 to Aug. 4 on weekdays from 8am to 5pm at his office in Hagåtña, located in the DNA Building in STE 407/408 (4th floor).

"Be Heartfelt recognizes this need for families on our island that we call home," said San Nicolas. "It is important we support Be Heartfelt to achieve its mission of getting shoes on to the feet of our kids for the upcoming school year. I am always here for you and happy to support groups and organizations helping the people of Guam, especially our youth. Thank you for having me again be a part of this initiative."

Other drop off locations are Guam Girls Scouts, Famous Footwear, and mayor's offices in Yigo, Tamuning, and Piti.

Be Heartfelt is working to add more locations, according to Marble. Donations will be disseminated to those in need through School Outreach Teams.

Email conactbeheartfelt@gmail.com for more information about the shoe drive. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

AIRLINE STAIRS & AMBULIFT MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRSFRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-010-24

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority ("the CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal ("the RFP") and other contract provisions, for awarding a contract to provide maintenance, service, and repairs to its airline stairs and ambulift truck at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because the CPA wishes to acquire services and/or products that cannot be evaluate by price alone (NMIAC § 40-50-225 (a)).

The Proposal Package is available for pick-up beginning July 12, 2024, upon payment of $100.00 in cash, cashier's check, or credit card to the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for; (a) any of the reasons set forth in this RFP; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid/proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the proposal would not be in the best interest of CPA. The CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would not be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This RFP shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

LEO B. TUDELA
Executive Director

July 12, 2024
Date

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality – Division of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950-1304
DEQ Tel.: (670) 664-8500/01; Fax: (670) 664-8540
DCRM Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.becq.gov.mp

Eli D. Cabrera, Administrator
Zabrina S. Cruz, Director, DEQ

PUBLIC NOTICE

JULY 10, 2024

DIESEL GENERATORS, IMPACT CRUSHER, ASPHALT PLANT, CEMENT BATCHING PLANT, CRUSH PLANT, AND PORTABLE WASH PLANT USE BY BLACK MICRO CORPORATION

MODIFICATION TO AIR EMISSIONS SYNTHETIC MINOR SOURCE PERMIT

NO. 2023-AP-001

PROJECT SITE: TINIAN DIVERT AIRFIELD (SAN JOSE, TINIAN)

The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is accepting comments regarding a proposed modification to a Synthetic Minor Source Permit for Black Micro Corporation. The applicant is proposing to temporary use, under enforceable limitations, six diesel generators, one impact crusher, one asphalt plant, one crush plant, one cement batching plant, and one portable wash plant to develop the apron and taxiway for the Tinian Divert Airfield. Permitting such equipment will ensure air emissions fall below major source levels. The 31-day public comment period commences on FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2024, and ends at 4:30 P.M on MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024.

Written comments can be submitted in writing to the BECQ Saipan Office, located in Middle Road, Gualo Rai, or emailed to deq.air@becq.gov.mp. The draft Synthetic Minor Source Permit can be reviewed at the BECQ Saipan Office or accessed via the BECQ website at https://www.deq.gov.mp/news.html. All written and oral comments received by DEQ will be included as part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed activity. Please contact the BECQ-DEQ AIR Branch at 670-664-8500/8512/8534 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about Black Micro Corporation's draft synthetic minor source permit.

/S/
ELI D. CABRERA
Administrator
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

/S/
ZABRINA S. CRUZ
Director
Division of Environmental Quality

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
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DESIGN/BUILD FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A VEHICULAR RAMP ROTA WEST HARBOR COMMERCIAL MARINA, ROTA, CNMI

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-009-24

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposals (the "RFP") and other contract provisions, for awarding a Design/Build Vehicular Ramp construction project at the Rota West Harbor Commercial Marina, Rota, CNMI. The Design/Build RFP Package and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning ***June 21, 2024,*** upon payment of $200.00 in cash, cashier's check or certified check to the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport.

Proposals will be received at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor-Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport no later than ***2:00 P.M. CHST, July 24, 2024.*** Proposals received after the date/time indicated above will not be opened and will be returned to the Proposer.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid bond, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount no less than ***ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount.*** Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FREDERICK PANGELINAN
Acting Executive Director

Date: _____

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

CNMI GOVERNMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO.: DPW24-RFP No.: 42400116

SUBMISSION DATE: August 08, 2024 TIME: 9:00 A.M.

"Engineering and Design Related Services"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The project package will be available on or after **July 05, 2024** at Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, located on Second Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, San Jose, Saipan.

There will be a **Pre-Proposal Conference** for this project on **July 23, 2024, 9:00 a.m. ChST.,** at the **DPW Building Code Conference Room,** Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 p.m. ChST., on July 31, 2024** to **Mr. Anhony A. Camacho, Acting Secretary of DPW,** Saipan. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ANTHONY A. CAMACHO
Acting Secretary, DPW

/S/ BRIEN SERS NICHOLAS JR.
Acting Director, Division of Procurement Services

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXIV, Issue No. 139

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Questions about Biden's fitness aren't going away

Joe Biden wants those disgruntled Democrats to get the hell off his lawn. But they're not ready to put down the lanterns and pitchforks quite yet.

On Monday, the president, in a letter to House Democrats, reiterated his intention to remain in the race. He urged his fellow party members to quiet down about what they witnessed during his disastrous debate performance and to fall in line behind his candidacy.

"We have 42 days to the Democratic convention and 119 days to the general election," Biden wrote. "Any weakening of resolve or lack of clarity about the task ahead only helps Trump and hurts us. It's time to come together, move forward as a unified party and defeat Donald Trump."

Yet as the president channels Chip Diller of "Animal House"—who screams, "Remain calm, all is well" as a parade descends into utter chaos—he brings more scrutiny on himself by limping through friendly interviews intended to deflect talk of his obvious mental decline.

During an appearance on MSNBC's "Morning Joe," the host asked Biden about his efforts to unify Democrats. This is what he said: "Well look—Democrats—Joe (Scarborough), let me say it this way, the reason I've been on the road so much, all over the country, while Trump is riding around in a golf cart, filling out his golf card before, golf cart before he even hits the ball—but anyway, he hasn't been anywhere in 10 days, I've been all over the country, No. 1."

That came on the heels of Friday's interview with George Stephanopoulos of ABC News, during which Biden attempted to explain his debate fiasco.

"Nobody's fault but mine," he began. "I, uh, I prepared what I usually would do sittin' down as I did come back with foreign leaders or National Security Council for explicit detail. And I realized 'bout part way through that, you know, all I get quoted the New York Times had me down at 10 points before the debate, nine now or whatever the hell it is. The fact of the matter is that, what I looked at is that he also lied 28 times. I couldn't, I mean the way the debate ran, not my fault, no one else's fault, no one else's fault."

Biden is operating under the notion that, if his party stays the course with his candidacy, talk about his frail mental state and his ability to serve as president through age 86 will evaporate. Even for a man who has spent five decades in Washington, this is a particularly bizarre delusion. In reality, this issue will dominate the campaign until Nov. 5 if Biden stays in the race. And even if compliant Democrats cover their ears, eyes and mouths to ignore the obvious, don't expect independent and undecided voters to follow suit.

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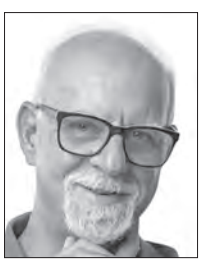
Here's why Biden should get tested and the results made public



By STEVE LOPEZ
Los Angeles Times

President Joe Biden keeps pushing back.

He's not going anywhere, he defiantly insists, and claims he feels just fine.

But I've been hearing from doctors who saw Biden muddle through the June 27 debate and think he's anything but fine. One of them told me he's certain Biden is suffering from a movement disorder for which there is no cure.

A diagnosis by someone who has not examined a patient is speculative. But the shared view among the doctors who contacted me is that we are not looking at a man who's simply getting older. We're looking at a man with a serious medical condition.

In a recent column, I wrote that no one can accurately diagnose dementia from afar. But doctors tell me neurological movement disorders can be easier to detect.

"Every physician I have spoken to agrees that Biden has classic symptoms of Parkinson's," one of the doctors said.

Another noted the "masked face, blank expression, stopping as he shuffles along, soft, hoarse speech and stiff arms as he walks—all Parkinson's."

Two additional responses were of particular interest because they came from neurologists with decades of experience. So on Monday, just after the *New York Times* reported that a Parkinson's specialist visited the White House eight times in eight months, I called them.

"When I was watching the debate," said Dr. Michael Mahler, who's on the UCLA faculty, "there were clues to me" that Biden, 81, was probably dealing with more than the normal challenges of aging.

The first sign for Mahler was "the way he walked onto the stage, with a very stiff gait. Normally, the way people walk, they swing their arms, and he didn't have much arm swing. Then, watching and listening to him, he had … almost no facial expression…. His blink rate was really, really low, and he had very few other movements."

Mahler noted Biden's muffled speech as well. He said he couldn't make a definitive diagnosis without a full physical, lab work, medication history and a five- to six-hour neurological battery of tests. But he said that what he saw were symptoms in the "Parkinsonian" paradigm.

Dr. Jack Florin, a Fullerton neurologist who's been practicing medicine for 50 years, told me he has noticed signs of an advancing movement disorder in Biden for several years, and they were accentuated during the debate.

For Florin, there's no doubt what's going on: He thinks Biden has a Parkinson's variant called progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP). He noted that singer Linda Ronstadt has the same condition, as did the late actor Dudley Moore.

"When you have PSP, your eye movements are not normal," Florin said. "You're looking down and you have difficulty moving your eyes from side to side. People with PSP have what's called a fixed stare, and it looked like he was just staring, because his eyes were not moving."

Over the course of his career, Florin said, he's had hundreds of PSP patients. In Biden, he said, other telling symptoms included "low volume and rapid speech with loss of normal rhythm," as well as "episodes of sudden forced eye closure," also known as blepharospasm.

In Biden's stiff gait, Florin saw another clue.

"He doesn't have idiopathic Parkinson's. That's the most common type. People are stooped, often they have a tremor, and usually it's on one side more than another. He doesn't have that," Florin said.

In his opinion, Biden has PSP, which is "progressive, incurable and untreatable…. As it gets worse, postural instability is the main problem, and there's a risk of falls. After a while, patients cannot safely walk. A cane or walker won't really help, because you can fall over backwards. As the disease gets severely worse, you're mainly confined to a wheelchair."

Two other doctors who contacted me did not rule out the possibility that Biden's problems during the debate could have been caused—at least partially—by the side effects of medication.

"I certainly couldn't diagnose him," said Dr. Laura Mosqueda, a USC geriatrician who worries that people will incorrectly make the diagnosis that the president's problem is his age, even though the world has no shortage of fully functioning people far older than Biden. "I don't care if it's 81, 61 or 41. I don't think this is about his age. It's about—does he have a medical problem we ought to be aware of?"

And that's the right question.

Just four months shy of election day, the presidential election comes down to a choice between someone we know and someone we don't know.

Trump, we know, and many people consider him the greater threat to the republic. And it's no surprise that readers keep asking me why he's not the candidate whose party wants to put him out to pasture.

Biden, we used to know, but a stranger is now wearing his suits.

He owes it to voters and his own party to undergo a full physical, cognitive and neurological workup and to make the results public. If there's a problem, it needs to be addressed, with courage and transparency.

For his sake, and ours.

First lady Jill Biden getting unnecessary abuse after Joe's debate flop

By LEONARD GREENE
New York Daily News

Her loving students might call her Dr. B., but one cynical columnist has gone so far as to deride her as "America's most famous community college teacher."

Jill Biden can't win. If she talks her husband into staying the course after his widely panned debate performance, she's a power-hungry puppet master who's guilty of elder abuse.

But if she convinces President Joe Biden to abandon his re-election campaign, she's admitting that she has been part of a cruel "Weekend at Bernie's" charade that has propped him up for months, maybe even years.

I didn't vote for Jill Biden any more than I voted for Michelle Obama or Nancy Reagan.

But I knew she came with the package. So it doesn't bother me that she advises her husband, the president, even in moments of crisis.

What does bother me is this wicked attack on her character and, even worse, on her credentials.

To America, the first lady is known as Dr. Jill Biden. No, she isn't a medical doctor. And, no, she doesn't have a Ph. D.

But she is not a quack, as some of her worst critics have said. Columnist Maureen Callahan dissed Jill Biden's community college credentials in the Daily Mail this past week.

Jill Biden is a devoted teacher and college professor who earned her honorific by completing the coursework required to receive a doctorate degree in education. That was after earning two master's degrees in the same field.

Proud and noble accomplishments.

Two days a week, she takes off her FLOTUS hat and stands in front of students at Northern Virginia Community College, where she is a professor in the English department.

But some of her political enemies have for years insisted on treating her like she's some fake TV court judge whose legal resume wouldn't fit on the back of a business card.

"Madame First Lady—Mrs. Biden—Jill—kiddo," author Joseph Epstein wrote in a 2020 op-ed piece for the Wall Street Journal. "Any chance you might drop the 'Dr.' before your name? 'Dr. Jill Biden' sounds and feels fraudulent, not to say a touch comic."

As if to say that education isn't as important as some other academic disciplines.

Biden's debate debacle has given rise to some wild replacement conspiracy theories, none wilder than the suggestion that Biden should dump Vice President Kamala Harris and put former President Barack Obama on the ticket.

Don't bet on it. The authors of the Constitution's 12th Amendment already nixed that idea.

The second-wildest theory is that Jill Biden herself is actually angling for the job, as evidenced by her appearance on the cover of Vogue magazine.

Opinion writer Ingrid Jacques even said in USA Today that the cream-colored tuxedo dress she wore in her cover shoot made her look "very presidential."

It should be noted that some of the most cutting comments about the first lady have come from white women, members of the same demographic that helped put Donald Trump in the White House in 2016.

When Trump was elected president, exit polls showed that he had the support of 42% of American women.

Even more shocking was that he received the votes of 53% of white women—even though a white woman was running against him.

From there, Trump was able to nominate three conservatives to the U.S. Supreme Court and overturn the right to abortion.

"We are the first generation in half a century to give our daughters a country with fewer rights than we had," the first lady told a campaign crowd earlier this year.

"Book bans. Voting laws gutted. Court decisions that strip away our most basic freedoms. But circumstance is not destiny," she said.

A day after the debate, Jill Biden took to the stage in a statement dress decorated with a simple word: Vote.

It was an important message. It was just what the doctor ordered.

These are bullish times for adult bullies

By NEDRA RHONE
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

My bully radar developed fairly early in life.

In junior high, I got caught in the crosshairs of Roderick. He would routinely tease me, then he took it a step further. I distinctly remember the day, during a class trip to the opera, when he stood next to me, positioned one arm in front of me and one behind me, then smacked me in the chest and the back so hard that it made feathers fly out of my down jacket.

I tried moving away from him, but he followed. Then I tried rolling my eyes, as if I didn't care. But, after the third or fourth assault, I started to tear up. An observant classmate watched the entire episode and went to find his father, who was a parent chaperone on the trip. Mr. Esclamado came to my rescue, positioning himself between me and Roderick for the rest of the afternoon.

Roderick was always getting into trouble. He did not return to school the following year, and I've always wondered what happened to him. He taught me to stay on the lookout for bullies and sparked my instinct to support those who become their targets.

Most children outgrow their bullying behavior, learning throughout childhood and adolescence how to manage aggressive behaviors and successfully engage with peers. But when those lessons aren't learned, it's generally because those people have what Bill Eddy calls "high-conflict personalities."

Meet the adult bully.

These are the people who blame others for everything and never look within. They think in all or nothing terms, such as win or lose, friend or foe, hero or villain. They regularly have extreme emotional reactions that can range from aggressive talk to physically hurting their targets.

I am bringing this up now because these are bullish times for adult bullies.

Weaker social relationships, disconnected families and heavy reliance on technology have all given bullies an advantage in recent decades.

I only need to scroll through social media to see how our ability to relate to one another has declined. It's hard to read some of the things people are bold enough to write online. They seem to invest a lot of time in crafting harsh responses rather than thoughtful feedback.

We are living in a moment when everything, from who should sing country music to whether more of us should consider electric cars, is a polarizing topic. As the next presidential election draws nearer, I can imagine this will only get worse.

You've likely run into someone who fits the description of an adult bully. These are people we encounter at work, in our communities or in our families.

Eddy, a San Diego based therapist, co-founder of the High Conflict Institute and author of "Our New World of Adult Bullies," estimates adult bullies make up 5 to 10% of the population.

He was surprised that so many of them have found support groups on social media. "In the past they would have felt isolated by their families and their communities," Eddy said, "now they find each other and reinforce their negative thinking and bad behavior and try to impress each other."

This spring, we watched a round robin of bullying on Capitol Hill as Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene and Texas Rep. Jasmine Crockett traded barbs about each other's appearance.

Those are the bullies under the spotlight, the ones we read about in headlines but that behavior is contagious.

"Seeing so many images of bullying in the news, in movies, and on social media, may be entertaining at one level, but its training at another level and increases the likelihood that people with bullying tendencies will copy this behavior. Especially for young people, it starts seeming like the new normal. For people who are potential bullies, it gives them permission to go ahead," Eddy said.

They may look different but bullies have the same personality traits and the same predictable patterns of behaviors. They don't or won't stop themselves from trying to intimidate people, so it is up to others to take them down.

"Bullies catch us by surprise because most people can be rational most of the time and we think they made a mistake," said Eddy. "It also takes a lot of energy to challenge a difficult person, so there is a fair amount of wishful thinking that the person will stop and be rational so we don't have to deal with them."

Bullies trigger our primitive responses leaving us unclear on why we may react to them the way we do.

They rally supporters to spread lies until the false information they are sharing seems true and they seek out advocates to defend and dismiss their bad behavior.

Bullies always play the victim and are quick to project their own hurtful behaviors onto other people. They desperately want to be leaders.

It's useless to tell a bully that they are a bully.

Eddy says we need to stop them by not tolerating their behavior. We should avoid them entirely or at least set appropriate boundaries if we can't remove them from our lives.

The worst thing a bully can feel is a loss of power.

So if we can't rid the world of bullies, we can at least expose them.

Eddy suggests we might even practice having empathy for them.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to the CNMI community!

This summer, I had the pleasure of bringing six doctor of physical therapy students to Saipan to assist in treating as many patients as possible during our three-week stay. In that short time, we conducted 254 treatment sessions, helping patients relieve pain and improve their quality of life.

During my 3.5 years living on Saipan and working at Eucon Medical Health Services, I treated numerous patients but never fully met the demand. Now, as a faculty member at the University of Hartford in Connecticut, I have organized an annual return to Saipan with students. This initiative serves as part of their training and helps provide essential services that are limited locally.

I want to extend my gratitude to the CNMI community for offering such a welcoming environment. Our patients were deeply appreciative of the students' empathy and skill, often going out of their way to help them enjoy their free time in Saipan. The community even honored two of our students, whose relatives served on Tinian and Saipan during World War II, at the Liberation Day festivities.

Each student left with the highest regard for the CNMI and its people. They were grateful for the opportunity to serve a community that welcomed them warmly, appreciated their efforts, and invited them to return.

I hope that by bringing students each year, we can inspire local students to pursue careers in physical therapy, making this yearly trip unnecessary. Until that day comes, I am thankful for the chance to provide this service and for the community's gracious reception. Your support makes this program possible and allows us to reach more people.

Thank you!

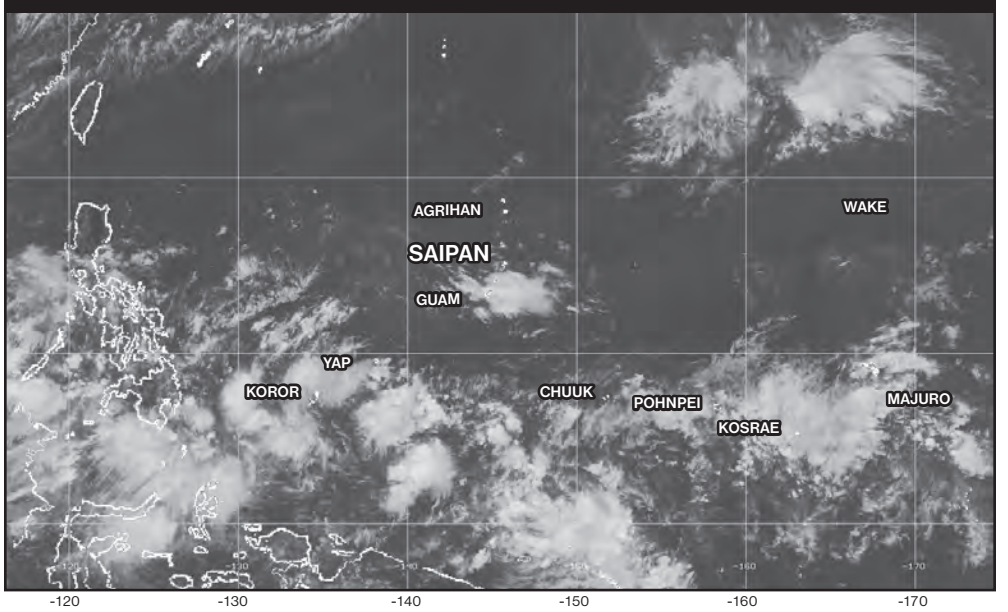
TJ Bellama, PT, DPT, OCS
Assistant professor of Physical Therapy
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences
College of Education, Nursing, and Healthcare Professions
University of Hartford

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
87° / 79°	86° / 78°	86° / 78°	86° / 78°	88° / 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:36 AM THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A few minor updates, the satellite presentation of the showers and thunderstorms is better this morning, so raised the chance of showers to 50 percent today and tonight. Benign marine conditions will continue, with winds around 10 knots and only occasional gusts to perhaps as high as 20 near showers. Seas will remain around 3 to 5 feet through the weekend, then could edge up to between 4 and 6 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 76°
Yap	Light Rain Shower	88° / 81°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Cloudy	86° / 80°
Majuro	Cloudy	86° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:53 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:53 AM	11:11 PM	-
Saturday	11:39 AM	11:44 PM	-
Sunday	12:25 PM	-	-
Monday	-	12:18 AM	1:13 PM
Tuesday	-	12:55 AM	2:04 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	60° / 44°
Beijing	Fair	96° / 75°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	91° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°
London	Partly Cloudy	75° / 57°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	87° / 70°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	55° / 39°
Miami	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
New York	Cloudy	87° / 76°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	90° / 77°
Paris	Sunny	77° / 57°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	82° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	88° / 70°
Salem	Thunderstorm	94° / 72°
San Francisco	Sunny	70° / 55°
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 73°
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	90° / 78°
Washington, DC	Cloudy	94° / 80°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
12:20 AM	High Tide	1.94
06:30 AM	Low Tide	1.15
11:12 AM	High Tide	1.63
5:57 PM	Low Tide	0.60

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 1, 2024

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily
7C3471	5:50PM	9:30PM	Daily from July 17

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3472	11:05AM	4:40PM	Daily
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

Papua New Guinea minister facing domestic assault charge steps down

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Papua New Guinea's opposition leader urged the country's premier Tuesday to fire the petroleum minister who is stepping down from office as he faces alleged domestic assault charges in Australia.

Police in the Australian state of New South Wales said in a statement Saturday that a 58-year-old man was arrested and charged after a domestic dispute in Sydney after a 31-year-old woman known to him had injuries to her face following an altercation, the statement said.

Australian authorities did not name Petroleum Minister Jimmy Maladina as the accused, but his identity was widely reported by news outlets in Papua New Guinea and Australia.

Meanwhile, Papua New Guinea Prime Minister James Marape said in a written statement Sunday that Maladina "offered to step aside" while he attended to a complaint "as it is heard in court in Australia," without elaborating further on the incident.

The premier added he would appoint an acting minister to fill in for the petroleum minister.

Still, opposition leader Douglas Tomuriesa urged Marape to sack Maladina or request his outright resignation rather than allow him to step aside temporarily. "While Maladina won't be performing his ministerial duties, he will still be getting paid as so," Tomuriesa said in a written statement.

Maladina is due to appear in court Thursday on a charge of assault resulting in bodily harm. He is currently on bail, police said. He has not responded to requests for comment by The Associated Press.

In remarks attributed to him by news outlets in Papua New Guinea, Maladina said he was aware of the reports of his arrest and was "fully cooperating with the authorities." He did not say whether he would defend the charge.

It was unclear whether Maladina's visit to Australia was on government business. If so, it might grant him immunity from criminal prosecution under a legal equivalent of diplomatic immunity, said Don Rothwell, an international law expert at Australian National University.

Maladina is not a diplomat, but visiting foreign heads of state and, under some circumstances, visiting foreign government ministers may receive protections under Australia's Foreign States Immunities Act, Rothwell said, which effectively confers the same immunities.

"One of the critical questions is did he come to Australia on a private visit? If he came to Australia on a private visit, then it's very clear he doesn't enjoy any privileges or immunities," said Rothwell.

There was no immediate reply from the Papua New Guinea High Commission in Canberra Tuesday when the AP asked whether Maladina's Australian visit was on official business.

Maladina, a former lawyer and member of Marape's Pangu Party, became a lawmaker in 2022 and was appointed as a minister in January. The prime minister directed him to boost the developing country's efforts to profit from its natural gas resources.

He has been a key ally to Marape, who faced political tumult in May when 18 members of his party defected to the parliamentary opposition in a bid to oust the premier in a no-confidence vote before Parliament broke for the summer.

The Parliament is set to reconvene in September.

Senators pass bill removing statute of limitations of elderly abuse, exploitation

GUAM—Bill No. 243-37 (COR), authored by Democrat Sen. Dwayne T.D. San Nicolas, was passed by the 37th Guam Legislature during regular session at the Guam Congress Building in Hagåtña on July 10.

The piece of legislation aims to remove the statute of limitations for financial and property exploitation of an elderly person or individual with disability.

"Thank you to my fellow legislative colleagues for passing this legislation to combat the issue of abuse and financial and property exploitation of our senior citizens and individuals with disabilities," said San Nicolas. "Enacting this legislation will not only remove the statute of limitations but protect our *manamko'* and persons with disabilities by putting the law on their side. Financial exploitation of our *manamko'* and individuals with disabilities is a heinous crime that should not have a statute of limitations."

According to the National Council on Aging, up to five million older Americans are abused every year, and the annual loss by victims of financial abuse is estimated to be at least $36.5 billion. Guam Attorney General Douglas Moylan testified in support of the passage of the bill at its public hearing on April 1. This act shall become effective upon enactment.

Additionally, Resolution 218-37 was passed by members of the 37th Guam Legislature. It aims to support legislation in Washington, D.C., covering the costs of shipping for adaptive vehicles for qualified veterans with disabilities.

"Thank you to my fellow lawmakers for supporting Resolution 218-37," San Nicolas, a veteran, said. "The cost of shipping is expensive, especially for those living out here in Guam. Amending the federal law will not only cover shipping costs for adaptive vehicles or other conveyances for disabled veterans, who qualify for financial assistance, but will also help them maintain their independence."

Under federal law, financial assistance is provided to qualified veterans with disabilities to purchase adaptive vehicles or other conveyances. Currently, such vehicles are not available in Guam, costing thousands of dollars to qualified disabled veterans. Resolution 218-37 supports H.R. 522, Deliver for Veterans Act, introduced by Guam Congressman James Moylan in the United States House of Representatives, which seeks to cover the shipping and delivery expenses of adaptive vehicles provided for veterans with disabilities.

The bipartisan resolution is co-sponsored by Sens. Roy A.B. Quinata, Joe S. San Agustin, Parkinson, Vice Speaker Tina Muna Barnes, Amanda Shelton, Speaker Therese Terlaje, Joanne Brown, Frank Blas, Jr., Chris Barnett, Christopher Duenas, and Jesse Lujan. ***(PR)***

Office of the Public Auditor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Website: http://opacnmi.com
1220 Route 312, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: 7/12/2024 Closing Date: 7/26/2024

POSITION	EXAMINATION NO.
(1) Audit Manager	OPA-24-002

The Application for Employment may be available for download at www.opacnmi.com and available for pick at the Office of the Public Auditor, Building 1220, Route 312, Capitol Hill.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Department of Public Works
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

NOTICE TO ADJACENT LANDOWNERS SURROUNDING
ROTA ROUTE 103
PROPOSED ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

APPLICANT : CNMI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PROJECT : ROTA ROUTE 103 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The CNMI Department of Public Works submitted a Major Siting application to the Division of Coastal Resources Management for the improvement of Rota Route 103 on Rota, CNMI. The application was assigned CRM Permit No. RMS-2024-065.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

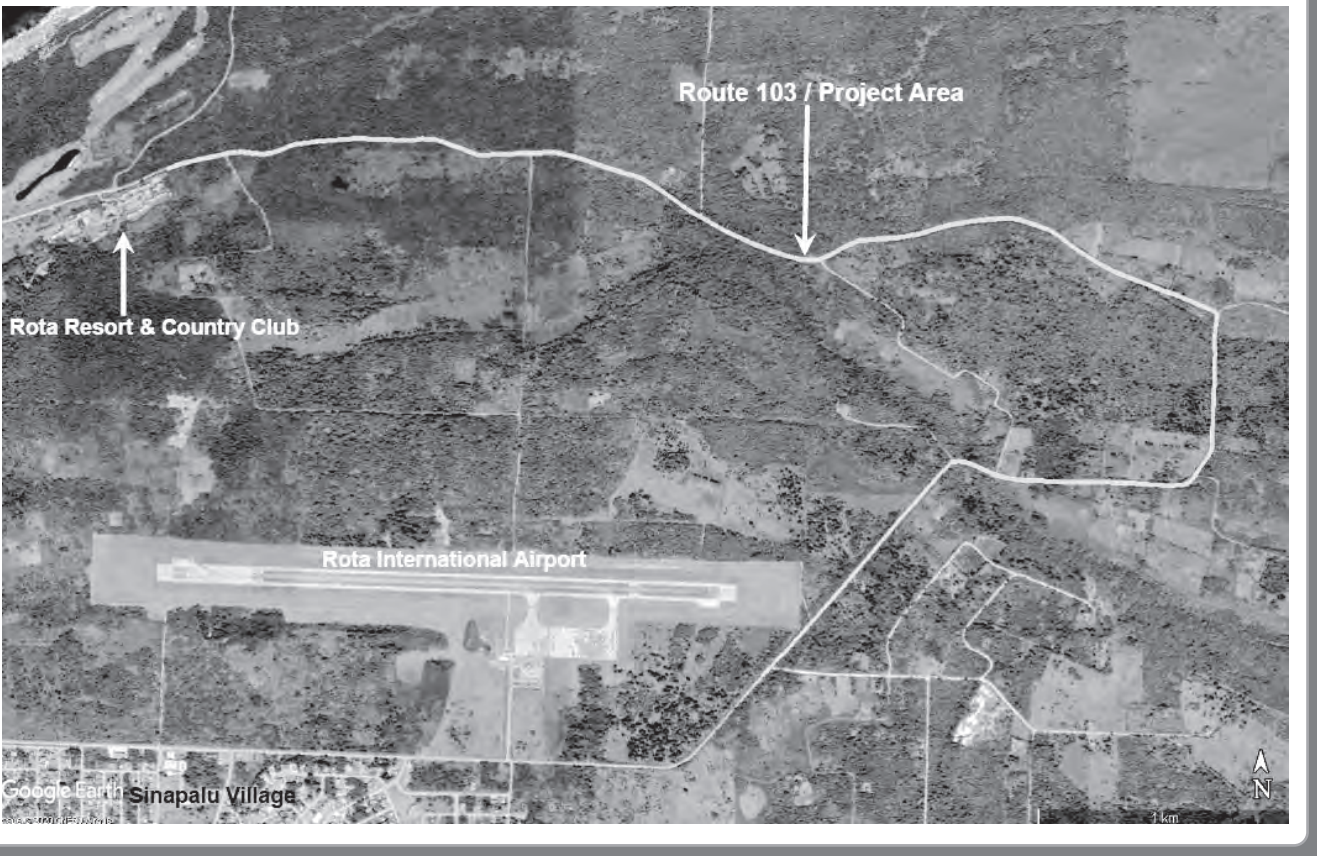
A 3.5-mile section of coral road (Route 103) with 12-foot-wide travel lanes in each direction and 4-foot-wide shoulders on each side of the traffic lanes (32 feet total width), would be paved and upgraded with safety measures. The new pavement will be flexible pavement consisting of hot asphaltic concrete pavement with a friction coarse layer, complete base, and sub-base fill materials. This type of pavement is known for its durability, rideability and long lifespan. The rehabilitation will also include drainage improvements to ensure proper water management and reduce the risk of flooding, installation of new traffic signs, and pavement markings.

Construction activities would include clearing and grubbing activities, road grading and bed preparation, and subsequent paving of the road. All proposed road improvements would lie within the Right-of-Way (ROW). Staging areas for during-construction activities are not known and will be determined by the selected contractor at a later date.

This notice is being issued to comply with NMIAC § 15-10-206(e)(2)(i) "Alternative Adjacent Property Owner Notification".

Written comments can be submitted by mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304, or emailed to permitting@dcrm.gov.mp.

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300 if you have any questions or would like more information on the Rota Route 103 Road Improvement Project.



40th Annual Saipan Int'l Fishing Tournament Sponsors

Photos by SFA

BRIDGE CAPITAL, LLC
PMB 29 Box 10001
Saipan, MP 96950
Date 6/25/2024
123
PAY TO THE ORDER OF Saipan Fishermen's Association $ 1,000.00
One Thousand and 00/100 cents DOLLARS
MEMO 40th ANNUAL FISHING TOURNAMENT
BRIDGE CAPITAL, LLC

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support from Bridge Capital, LLC for the 40th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set for July 13-14, 2024 in the waters off the Marianas.

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support from Hawaiian Rock Products for the 40th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set for July 13-14, 2024 in the waters off the Marianas.

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support from the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for the 40th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set for July 13-14, 2024 in the waters off the Marianas.

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support from RNV Construction for the 40th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set for July 13-14, 2024 in the waters off the Marianas.

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support from Docomo Pacific for the 40th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set for July 13-14, 2024 in the waters off the Marianas.

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support from Budweiser/MARPAC for the 40th nnual Saipan International Fishing Tournament set for July 13-14, 2024 in the waters off the Marianas.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 08-2024

Opening date: June 24, 2024 **Closing date: July 12, 2024**

Location: SAIPAN **SALARY**

Position(s): (1) ARFF Mechanic II — PL 6/1 to 6/12 ($9.27/hr to $15.85/hr)
(1) Executive/Board Secretary — PL 17/1 to 17/12 ($15.85/hr to $27.12/hr)

Location: TINIAN **SALARY**

Position(s): (4) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I — PL 5/1 to 5/12 ($8.83/hr to $15.10/hr)

Location: ROTA SEAPORT **SALARY**

Position(s): (1) General Maintenance-II — PL 5/1 to 5/12 ($8.83/hr to $15.10/hr)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the ***CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.*** Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, July 12, 2024.**

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays and austerity, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin, Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.robert@cnmiports.com and hrspecialist@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

LEO B. TUDELA
Executive Director

Saipan Fishermen's Association receives sponsorship support, from Pacifica Insurance and Century Insurance, for the 40th annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament (July 13-14, 2024).

DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB24-ZB-42400123

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 30, 2024 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS 'F' VEHICLE FOR CNMI ZONING BOARD"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED ON THE MUNIS VENDOR SELF SERVICE PORTAL (https://selfservice.dof.gov.mp/vss/) OR AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT BLDG NO. 1301, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPTIOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB CAN BE MADE TO THE ZONING BOARD OFFICE BY JULY 19, 2024, TO MRS. THERESE T. OGUMORO VIA EMAIL AT therese.ogumoro@cnmizoning.com

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ THERESE T. OGUMORO
ADMINISTRATOR, ZB

/S/ BRIEN S. NICHOLAS JR.
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

Business

GRMC celebrates 9th anniversary throughout July

DEDEDO, Guam—Guam Regional Medical City proudly commemorates its 9th anniversary throughout July with a series of events designed to celebrate with its employees and the local community. This milestone highlights GRMC's dedication to advancing healthcare in Guam.

According to GRMC CEO Dr. Alexander "Beau" Wielaard, "This year has been pivotal in the hospital's journey, marked by several significant milestones and achievements worth reflecting upon. It has been a period of growth and innovation, where we have expanded our healthcare services and commitment to the community."

In recognition of its commitment to excellence in stroke care, GRMC received the prestigious American Heart Association Get with The Guidelines® Stroke Gold Award. This accolade underscores GRMC's adherence to national guidelines for providing exceptional stroke care.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Guam Regional Medical City in Dededo, Guam.

GRMC expanded its leadership team with the appointment of Dr. Edison P. Manaloto, a board-certified internist, as chief medical officer, alongside Wielaard stepping up to chief executive officer. Furthermore, Guam's neuroscience capabilities have seen substantial progress with the arrival of neurosurgeons Dr. Scott C. Dulebohn and Dr. Luc Jasmin, alongside neurologist and sleep specialist Dr. Naho Hattori. GRMC has also bolstered its cardiac care services by adding interventional cardiologists Drs. Bishoy El-Bebawy and Maheswara "Mahesh" Golla, ensuring comprehensive emergency cardiac care for the community.

GRMC expanded its Advanced Primary Stroke Center, now offering 24/7 TeleStroke Services, and launched the new Transitional Care Clinic (TCC) to improve patient outcomes and reduce hospital readmissions. Additionally, the hospital introduced urology services through the new Urology Center, led by local experts Dr. Ann Fenton and Dr. Virgilio Petero.

During the month of July, GRMC will proudly celebrate its 9th anniversary with a series of engaging events and activities. The month-long anniversary celebrations began with the 9th Anniversary Wave on July 1. Employees will enjoy Macy's Shopping Day on July 12 with exclusive discounts.

A special Anniversary Mass and Blessing will take place at the GRMC Chapel on July 15 at noon, followed by blessings for each department. On July 19, GRMC will host a carnival featuring games and food, followed by a Bazaar on July 26 where employees and community vendors will set up booths to celebrate Christmas in July.

The celebrations will culminate with a Health Fair at Micronesia Mall on July 27 from 10am to 3pm, offering free vital screenings, opportunities to meet healthcare providers, and raffle prizes.

From community-focused festivities to recognizing significant achievements in medical care, GRMC invites employees and the local community to join in the celebrations, highlighting a year of growth, innovation, and continued dedication to enhancing healthcare services in Guam. ***(PR)***

California fast food workers now earn $20 per hour

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lawrence Cheng, whose family owns seven Wendy's locations south of Los Angeles, took orders at the register on a recent day and emptied steaming hot baskets of French fries and chicken nuggets, salting them with a flourish.

Cheng used to have nearly a dozen employees on the afternoon shift at his Fountain Valley location in Orange County. Now he only schedules seven for each shift as he scrambles to absorb a dramatic jump in labor costs after a new California law boosted the hourly wage for fast food workers on April 1 from $16 to $20 an hour.

"We kind of just cut where we can," he said. "I schedule one less person, and then I

» Franchisees responding by cutting hours

come in for that time that I didn't schedule and I work that hour."

Cheng hopes the summer when business is traditionally brisk with students out of school and families traveling or spending more time eating out will bring a better profit that can cover the added costs.

Experts say it's still too early to tell the long-term impact of the wage hike on fast food restaurants and whether there will be widespread layoffs and closures. Past wage increases have not necessarily led to job losses. When California and New York nearly doubled their minimum wage previously to $15 compared to the federal level of $7.25 per hour, job growth continued, according to a University of California, Berkeley study.

So far, the industry has continued to show job growth. In the first two months after the law passed April 1, the industry gained 8,000 jobs, compared to the same period in 2023, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. No figures were available yet for June.

Joseph Bryant, executive vice president of the Service Employees International Union, which pushed for the raise, said the industry has not only added jobs under the new law but "multiple franchisees have also noted that the higher wage is already attracting better job candidates, thus reducing turnover."

26M tons of clothing end up in China's landfills each year

WENZHOU, China (AP)—At a factory in Zhejiang province on China's eastern coast, two mounds of discarded cotton clothing and bed linens, loosely separated into dark and light colors, pile up on a workroom floor. Jacket sleeves, collars and brand labels protrude from the stacks as workers feed the garments into shredding machines.

It's the first stage of a new life for the textiles, part of a recycling effort at the Wenzhou Tiancheng Textile Company, one of the largest cotton recycling plants in China.

Textile waste is an urgent global problem, with only 12% recycled worldwide, according to fashion sustainability nonprofit Ellen MacArthur Foundation. Even less—only 1%—are castoff clothes recycled into new garments; the majority is used for low-value items like insulation or mattress stuffing.

Nowhere is the problem more pressing than in China, the world's largest textile producer and consumer, where more than 26 million tons of clothes are thrown away each year, according to government statistics. Most of it ends up in landfills.

And factories like this one are barely making a dent in a country whose clothing industry is dominated by "fast fashion"—cheap clothes made from unrecyclable synthetics, not cotton. Produced from petrochemicals that contribute to climate change, air and water pollution, synthetics account for 70% of domestic clothing sales in China.

China's footprint is worldwide: E-commerce juggernaut brands Shein and Temu make the country one of the world's largest producers of cheap fashion, selling in more than 150 countries.

To achieve a game-changing impact, what fashion expert Shaway Yeh calls "circular sustainability" is needed among major Chinese clothing brands so waste is avoided entirely.

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE
†Alicia Abaño Bisnar
Lovingly known as "Alice"
Born on: September 12, 1962
Called to Life: June 27, 2024
In her eternal life, she now joins her:
Loved One: †Andres Jocson Bailon
Parents: †Feñilon Rivera Bisnar and †Lelita Abaño Bisnar
Brothers: †Ricardo Abaño Bisnar and † Feliciano Abaño Bisnar
Sisters: †Susana Abaño Cabaces and †Nelida Bisnar Atalig
Brother In-Laws/Sister In-Law: †Rex Henley, †Pedro Manglona Atalig and †Leonila Bisnar
Her memories will forever be in the hearts of Her:
Children and Grandchildren:
Joseph Bisnar Paraiso and Jocyl Paraiso
Amara Leigh Paraiso
James Andro Bisnar Bailon
James Adriane Verano Bailon, Alicia Jane Verano Bailon, Akhiera Jane Verano Bailon
Jaimilice Bisnar Camacho and Franklin R. Cruz
Brothers, Sisters, In-Laws, Nephews, Nieces:
Mercy Bisnar Henley and †Rex Henley
Rosalie Cortes Symolon and child
Nellie Bisnar Henley and children
†Nelida Bisnar Atalig and †Pedro Mangloña Atalig
Christian Bisnar Atalig and children
Adeloisa Bisnar Atalig
Kahra Bisnar Atalig
†Feliciano Abaño Bisnar and †Leonila Cantuba Bisnar
Brian Bisnar and children
Don Cantuba Bisnar and children
Daine Cantuba Bisnar and child
Rosana Bisnar Ignacio and Florante Ignacio
Alvin Bisnar Ignacio and children
Donald Bisnar Ignacio and children
RC Ignacio Ubac and children
Vince Bisnar Ignacio
Felizardo Abaño Bisnar
Raquel Arcenas and children
Bodie Bisnar and child
Reina Lou Bisnar and child
Rhitzelle Saldino
Robert Bisnar and child
Fenilon Bisnar and child
Dolores Bisnar Castro and Augustin K. Castro, Jr.
Deborah Kyres Bisnar Duhig
†Susana A. Cabaces and Victoriano E. Tuquero
John Eman Cabaces Tuquero
Jovic Cabaces Tuquero
Extended Family: Camacho Family
Our beloved †Alicia Abaño Bisnar will be missed by numerous siblings, cousins, children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, family and friends.
Daily Mass is offered at San Roque Church on Monday to Friday 6PM, Saturday 7AM, and Sunday 7AM & 9AM.
Funeral Service will be held at Kalas Funeral Home, 6160 Oxon Hill Rd, Maryland 20745 on Sunday, July 14. After prayer, viewing will start at 1PM and final respects will end at 7PM Eastern time.
For family and friends in Saipan and the Philippines, the service and viewing will be streamed online on Facebook 3AM-9AM Saipan/1AM-7AM Philippines time (Monday July 15).
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRESENCE, THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.
Jaimie, Joseph, Jay and Family

Nation

Biden candidacy faces new peril

Including first Senate Democrat saying he should exit race

AP

President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden welcome NATO allies and partners to the White House in Washington, Wednesday, July 10, 2024, during a welcome ceremony on the South Lawn for the 75th anniversary of the NATO Summit.

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden's imperiled reelection campaign hit new trouble Wednesday as House Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi said merely "it's up to the president to decide" if he should stay in the race, celebrity donor George Clooney said he should not run and Democratic senators and lawmakers expressed fresh fear about his ability to beat Republican Donald Trump.

Late in the evening, Vermont Sen. Peter Welch called on Biden to withdraw from the election, becoming the first Senate Democrat to do so. Welch said he is worried because "the stakes could not be higher."

The sudden flurry of grave pronouncements despite Biden's determined insistence he is not leaving the 2024 race put on public display just how unsettled the question remains among prominent Democrats. On Capitol Hill, an eighth House Democrat, Rep. Pat Ryan of New York, and later a ninth, Rep. Earl Blumenauer of Oregon, publicly asked Biden to step aside.

"I want him to do whatever he decides to do," Pelosi said Wednesday on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" rather than declaring Biden should stay in. While Biden has said repeatedly that he's made his decision, she said, "We're all encouraging him to make that decision, because time is running short."

It's a crucial moment for the president and his party, as Democrats consider what was once unthinkable—having the incumbent Biden step aside, just weeks before the Democratic National Convention that is on track to nominate him as their candidate for reelection.

Biden is hosting world leaders in Washington for the NATO summit this week with a crowded schedule of formal meetings, sideline chats and long diplomatic dinners, all opportunities to showcase he is up for the job despite a worrisome performance last month in the first presidential debate with Trump.

His party at a crossroads, Biden faces the next tests Thursday—in public, at a scheduled news conference that many Democrats will be watching for signs of his abilities, and privately, as his top advisers meet with the Senate Democratic caucus to discuss their concerns and shore up support.

Welch said in a Washington Post opinion piece published Wednesday evening, "We cannot unsee President Biden's disastrous debate performance."

The first-term senator said Vermont loves Biden and he was calling on the president to withdraw from the race "with sadness."

Las Vegas hits record 5th consecutive day of 115 degrees or greater

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Las Vegas baked Wednesday in its record fifth consecutive day of temperatures sizzling at 115 degrees Fahrenheit (46.1 Celsius) or greater amid a lengthening hot spell that is expected to broil much of the U.S. into the weekend.

The temperature climbed to 115 shortly after 1 p.m. at Harry Reid International Airport, breaking the old mark of four consecutive days set in July 2005. And the record could be extended, or even doubled, by the weekend.

Even by desert standards, the prolonged baking that Nevada's largest city is experiencing is nearly unprecedented, with forecasters calling it "the most extreme heat wave" since the National Weather Service began keeping records in Las Vegas in 1937.

Already the city has broken 16 heat records since June 1, well before the official start of summer, "and we're not even halfway through July yet," meteorologist Morgan Stessman said Wednesday. That includes an all-time high of 120 F (48.8 C) set on Sunday, which beat the previous 117 F (47.2 C) record.

Alyse Sobosan said this July has felt the hottest in the 15 years she has lived in Las Vegas. She said she doesn't step outside during the day if she can help it.

"It's oppressively hot," she said. "It's like you can't really live your life."

It's also dangerously hot, health officials have emphasized. There have been at least nine heat-related deaths this year in Clark County, which encompasses Las Vegas, according to the county coroner's office. Officials say the toll is likely higher.

"Even people of average age who are seemingly healthy can suffer heat illness when it's so hot it's hard for your body to cool down," said Alexis Brignola, an epidemiologist at the Southern Nevada Health District.

For homeless residents and others without access to safe environments, officials have set up emergency cooling centers at community centers across southern Nevada.

The Las Vegas area has been under an excessive heat warning on three separate occasions this summer, totaling about 12 days of dangerous heat with little relief even after the sun goes down, Stessman said.

Keith Bailey and Lee Doss met early Wednesday morning at a Las Vegas park to beat the heat and exercise their dogs, Breakie, Ollie and Stanley.

"If I don't get out by 8:30 in the morning, then it's not going to happen that day," Bailey said, wearing a sunhat while the dogs played in the grass.

World

Israeli military orders Gaza City evacuation

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip (AP)—The Israeli military urged all Palestinians to leave Gaza City and head south Wednesday, pressing ahead with a fresh offensive across the north, south and center of the embattled territory that has killed dozens of people over the past 48 hours.

The stepped-up military activity came as U.S., Egyptian and Qatari mediators met with Israeli officials in the Qatari capital, Doha, for talks seeking a long-elusive cease-fire deal with Gaza's Hamas militant group in exchange for the release of dozens of Israeli hostages it is holding.

Israel says it is pursuing Hamas fighters that are regrouping in various parts of Gaza nine months into the war. But heavy strikes in recent days along the length of the territory also could be aimed at putting more pressure on Hamas in the cease-fire talks.

In a visit Wednesday to central Gaza, Israel's military chief, Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi, said forces were operating in different ways, in multiple parts of the territory "to carry out a very important mission: pressure. We will continue operating to bring home the hostages."

Israel informed people in Gaza of the evacuation order by dropping leaflets urging "all those in Gaza City" to take two "safe routes" south to the area around the central town of Deir al-Balah. Gaza City, it said, will "remain a dangerous combat zone."

Months ago, Israel ordered residents of northern Gaza, including Gaza City, to flee south, and much of the population left earlier in the war. Large parts of Gaza City and urban areas around it have been flattened or left a shattered landscape by previous Israeli assaults.

The United Nations says about 300,000 Palestinians have remained in the hard-hit north, with the bulk of those said to be in Gaza City.

Most of Gaza's 2.3 million people are crammed into squalid tent camps in central and southern Gaza.

Israeli troops have pushed into parts of Gaza City in recent days, triggering the flight of thousands of Palestinians trying to escape shelling and airstrikes. This past week, the military ordered Palestinians to evacuate from eastern and central parts of the city.

There was no immediate mass exodus from the city following Wednesday's order. Many Palestinians have concluded that there is no refuge in war-stricken Gaza.

The military, meanwhile, said it wrapped up an operation launched late last month in the Gaza City neighborhood of Shijaiyah, where it killed dozens of militants and destroyed eight underground tunnels.

Wednesday's evacuation order came after a series of deadly strikes over the past two days in other parts of the territory. Israeli bombardment early Wednesday hit four houses in Deir al-Balah and the nearby Nuseirat refugee camp, killing 20 Palestinians.

Among the dead were six children and three women, according to officials at al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital, where the casualties were taken. An Associated Press reporter counted the bodies. The house hit in Deir al-Balah was inside the "humanitarian safe zone" where Israel has told Palestinians to flee for refuge.

The overnight bombardment came hours after Israeli warplanes struck the entrance of a school sheltering displaced families outside the southern city of Khan Younis.

NATO allies call China 'decisive enabler' of Russia's war in Ukraine

WASHINGTON (AP)—In their most serious rebuke against Beijing, NATO allies on Wednesday called China a "decisive enabler" of Russia's war against Ukraine and expressed concerns over Beijing's nuclear arsenal and its capabilities in space.

The sternly worded final communiqué, approved by the 32 NATO members at their summit in Washington, makes clear that China is becoming a focus of the military alliance. The European and North American members and their partners in the Indo-Pacific increasingly see shared security concerns coming from Russia and its Asian supporters, especially China.

Beijing insists that it does not provide military aid to Russia but has maintained strong trade ties with its northern neighbor throughout the conflict. It also accuses NATO of overreaching and inciting confrontation in the Indo-Pacific region.

In the communiqué, NATO member countries said China has become a war enabler through its "no-limits partnership" with Russia and its large-scale support for Russia's defense industrial base.

"This increases the threat Russia poses to its neighbors and to Euro-Atlantic security. We call on the PRC, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council with a particular responsibility to uphold the purposes and principles of the U.N. Charter, to cease all material and political support to Russia's war effort," read the communiqué, which referred to China by the abbreviation of its official name, the People's Republic of China.

"The PRC cannot enable the largest war in Europe in recent history without this negatively impacting its interests and reputation," the document says.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said China provides equipment, microelectronics and tools that are "enabling Russia to build the missiles, to build the bombs, to build the aircraft, to build the weapons they use to attack Ukraine."

He said it was the first time all NATO allies have stated this so clearly in an agreed document.

The Chinese embassy in Washington on Wednesday said China is neither a creator of nor a party to the Ukraine crisis. "China does not provide weapons to the parties to the conflict and strictly controls the export of dual-use articles, which is widely applauded by the international community," said Liu Pengyu, the embassy spokesman.

He said China's normal trade with Russia is "done aboveboard" and "beyond reproach."

Danny Russel, a former assistant secretary of state for Asia, called the new wording by NATO "an extraordinary step," particularly because it was coupled with the warning that Beijing continues to pose "systemic challenges" to European interests and security.

"It is a mark of how badly Beijing's attempt to straddle Russia and Western Europe has failed and how hollow its claim of neutrality rings," said Russel, who is vice president for international security and diplomacy at the Asia Society Policy Institute. "China's attempts at divide-and-conquer have instead produced remarkable solidarity between key nations of the Euro-Atlantic and the Asia-Pacific regions."

Max Bergmann, director of the Europe, Russia, and Eurasia Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the statement is "highly significant" because it signals to China that Europe, just like the U.S., also condemns support to Russia.

Life & Style

Alec Baldwin cast as reckless flouter of rules

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—Prosecutors sought to cast Alec Baldwin as someone who flouts rules and has little regard for safety at the first day of his New Mexico trial in the shooting of a cinematographer.

Special prosecutor Erlinda Ocampo Johnson repeatedly referred to Baldwin playing "make-believe" with a revolver on the set of the film "Rust," and said it led to very real danger and the death of Halyna Hutchins, whom she called "a vibrant 42-year-old rising star."

Ocampo Johnson told jurors in her opening statement Wednesday that Baldwin "requested to be assigned the biggest gun available" and that during a training session for it, he had "people filming him while he's running around shooting this gun."

The prosecutor said behind-the-scenes video will show Baldwin casually disregarding basic firearm safety.

"You will see him using this gun as a pointer to point at people, point at things," Ocampo Johnson said. "You will see him cock the hammer when he is not supposed to cock the hammer, you will see him put his finger on the trigger when his finger's not supposed to be on the trigger."

Hutchins' death and the wounding of director Joel Souza nearly three years ago sent shock waves through the film industry and led to the felony involuntary manslaughter charge against Baldwin that could result in up to 18 months in prison.

AP

Actor Alec Baldwin listens during his hearing in Santa Fe County District Court, Wednesday, July 10, 2024, in Santa Fe, N.M. Baldwin is facing a single charge of involuntary manslaughter in the death of a cinematographer.

The trial of the 66-year-old star of "30 Rock" and frequent host of "Saturday Night Live" continues Thursday with testimony from a crime scene technician with the Santa Fe County Sheriff's Department.

The beginning of testimony of the technician, Marissa Poppell, allowed jurors to see the revolver and the spent round from the shooting.

Baldwin's lawyer Alex Spiro emphasized in his opening statement that Baldwin did only what actors always do.

"He must be able to take that weapon and use it in the way that the person he's playing would," Spiro told jurors.

That includes pulling the trigger. Baldwin has said the gun fired accidentally, but Spiro said that it still would not be manslaughter even if he had willfully fired it.

"On a movie set, you're allowed to pull that trigger," said Spiro.

Spiro called the shooting an "unspeakable tragedy" and that an "amazing person" dies, but said the responsibility lies with the film's armorer Hannah Gutierrez-Reed, who has already been convicted of involuntary manslaughter, and of assistant director David Halls, who told Baldwin the gun was "cold."

Ex-Red Hot Chili Peppers guitarist sued for wrongful death in alleged fatal collision

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ex-Red Hot Chili Peppers guitarist Josh Klinghoffer is being sued for wrongful death and negligence after allegedly hitting and killing a pedestrian earlier this year.

The lawsuit was filed Wednesday by Ashley Sanchez, the daughter of 47-year-old Israel Sanchez, who died after being hit while walking in a crosswalk in Alhambra, east of Los Angeles.

The collision happened the afternoon of March 18, when plaintiffs allege Klinghoffer was driving a black SUV with no license plates and turned left at an intersection with a marked crosswalk.

AP

Musician Josh Klinghoffer attends an NBA basketball game between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Los Angeles Clippers, Thursday, March 6, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Video from the plaintiffs shows a black car hitting a man, who was Israel Sanchez, during the turn before pulling over. The footage was obtained from a neighbor's Ring camera. Israel Sanchez suffered blunt force trauma to the head and died from his injuries a few hours later at the hospital, the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit also alleges Klinghoffer was using a cellphone while driving, as video footage shows the driver holding an object above the steering wheel. Video also shows a 40-foot-wide grassy median dividing the road that should have given Klinghoffer time to see pedestrians in the crosswalk, the lawsuit said.

"My dad was known for being a great chef, the most talented of his family, the greatest grandpa always full of love and joy," Ashley Sanchez said in a news release. "His smile was so infectious. His life was taken by a careless act of a person who didn't bother to look where he was driving."

Man sentenced to 4-plus years in death of original 'Mickey Mouse Club' cast member

MEDFORD, Ore. (AP)—A man charged in the death of Dennis Day, an original cast member on Walt Disney's "Mickey Mouse Club" television program in the 1950s, has been sentenced to just over four years in prison after entering a modified guilty plea this week.

Daniel Burda, 41, pleaded no contest Monday to charges of criminally negligent homicide and abuse of a corpse. Burda was a live-in handyman at Day's home in Phoenix, Oregon, but Day, 76, had been trying to evict him around the time he disappeared in mid-2018. A no-contest plea is a concession that the state can prove criminal charges at trial and carries the same legal effect as a guilty plea.

Prosecutors said Burda caused Day's death and then used Day's identity to spend money.

Day's badly decomposed body wasn't discovered for nine months, beneath a pile of clothes at the home. His family has sued the Phoenix Police Department, saying its failure to discover his remains in his own home for so long—despite having been to the home multiple times—caused emotional distress.

During one search, police stepped on Day's body, causing fractures to the corpse, but they still didn't find it until April 2019, when Oregon State Police came with a cadaver-sniffing dog, the lawsuit said. The delay prevented the medical examiner from being able to determine a cause of death, it said.

The police department has denied the allegations. A trial is set for October in Jackson County Circuit Court.

Burda's criminal case was long delayed by trips to the Oregon State Hospital to determine his mental fitness to assist in his own defense as well as other legal challenges. He faced several other charges while out of custody, court records show, and he has also recently been sentenced to two years to be served separately in a burglary case—meaning he faces just over six years in all.

Overeaters anonymous is still doing the hard work

DEAR ABBY: I recently watched a video of the founder of Overeaters Anonymous, Rozanne S., telling the story of founding the program and her own struggles with food. In it, she mentioned that your mother had been instrumental in getting OA information out to the public and was responsible for its growth.

Abby, OA saved my life, and I'm grateful to Rozanne and to your mother. After 39 years in the program, I have released 120 pounds from my top weight. I'm now at a healthy weight and have been for most of 39 years. Beyond the weight loss, I have sanity, freedom and healthy relationships in my life. I came in only to lose weight, but the clarity I derived from working the 12 steps is the most important thing I have ever done in my life.

I'm glad I didn't have to rely on a drug to help me lose weight, and I found that working on what's inside helped to make the outside a normal weight. My only regret is that more people aren't aware of the program and still believe the solution is to "just lose the weight."

In the introduction to my first OA book, it said, "Thin will not make you well, but well will make you thin." Today, I love myself as I am—something I never thought would be possible.

JOE A. IN HOUSTON, TX

DEAR JOE: Thank you for your sweet letter. I remember my mother's interest in Overeaters Anonymous and her respect for its founder. I once had the pleasure of meeting Rozanne, a lovely woman, as well. As I'm sure most of us know, people have been known to eat for reasons that have nothing to do with physical hunger.

The introduction of weight loss drugs has hit like a tidal wave and, for some, it has been like a miracle (so far). However, for those wanting a more conservative approach, or who cannot tolerate the side effects of these drugs or afford the cost, Overeaters Anonymous may provide a successful path to weight loss.

There are more than 6,500 OA meetings worldwide, in 77 countries. This includes 2,500 virtual meetings taking place almost any time of the day from other locations around the world. Readers, if you're interested, you will find more information about Overeaters Anonymous at OA.org. Like any 12-step program, there's no membership fee, but donations are welcome.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My parents are in their 70s. They live in a retirement community. As they have gotten older, they have become more private. They no longer want their children or grandkids around. Recently, I received a call telling me that they would not be answering phone calls anymore. I have stopped by their house, but they do not answer the door. What little relationship I had with them no longer exists. Advice?

WANTING TO CONNECT

DEAR WANTING: You cannot force your parents into unwelcome contact. If you are concerned about their welfare, contact the police and ask them to do a wellness check because their behavior has changed. However, if everything checks out, you will have to accept that this is what your parents want and abide by their choice, as difficult as that may be.

DEAR ABBY
BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

THERE'S A DIPLODOCUS! WE'RE IN THE JURASSIC! WE MADE IT!
UGH. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WANTED TO COME BACK HERE.
LAST TIME WE DIDN'T BRING A CAMERA.
ALL WE NEED IS A FEW GOOD DINOSAUR PHOTOS AND WE'LL BE RICH WHEN WE GET HOME
IF WE GET IN NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, MAYBE I'LL GET TO MEET SOME OF THOSE TIGRESS BABES THEY SHOWED IN THE APRIL ISSUE! YOW WOW!
THOSE WERE FEMALES? REALLY. I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN EVEN TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

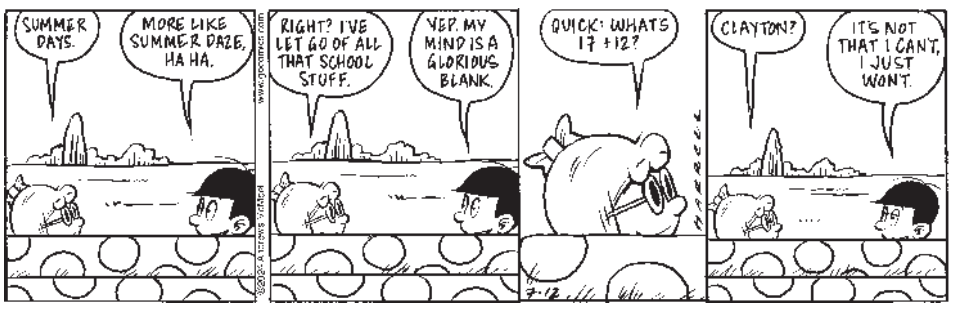
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

THE PASTA WAS MADE FROM ZUCCHINI
HALF THE CALORIES AND CARBS
YET IT STICKS TO THE WALL JUST LIKE REGULAR PASTA
JIM DAVIS 7-12

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SUMMER DAYS.
MORE LIKE SUMMER DAZE, HA HA.
RIGHT? I'VE LET GO OF ALL THAT SCHOOL STUFF.
YEP. MY MIND IS A GLORIOUS BLANK.
QUICK: WHAT'S 17 +12?
CLAYTON?
IT'S NOT THAT I CAN'T, I JUST WON'T.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

THIS SAYS THERE ARE MORE SINGLE MEN AT THIS TIME THAN THERE ARE SINGLE WOMEN.
ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, THAT MEANS YOU'RE STATISTICALLY LESS LIKELY TO BE REJECTED.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

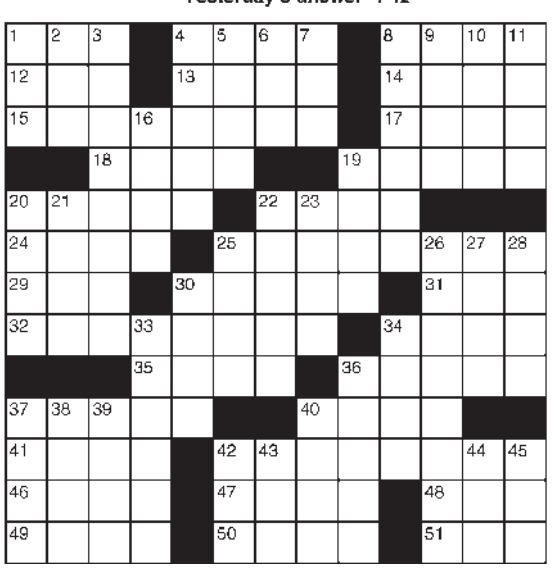
ACROSS
1 Tank filler
4 A/C measures
8 Bicycle part
12 Year in Mexico
13 Grecian vessels
14 Hawaiian city
15 Giza attractions
17 Asia's — Sea
18 Big fair, for short
19 Revise
20 Firetruck necessities
22 Bean variety
24 Strike callers
25 Certain primates
29 Zodiac cat
30 Tennis great Monica
31 Salonga of "Miss Saigon"
32 Stomach remedies
34 Talon
35 Taverns
36 Subjects, usually
37 Sparkle
40 Towel word
41 Campus mil. group
42 Members of blended families
46 Beige
47 Mystique
48 Rowing need
49 Leaves
50 Repast
51 Cagers' gp.

DOWN
1 Hiatus
2 Whatever
3 Sensitive topic
4 Jostles
5 Half a sextet
6 German conjunction
7 Radiator sound
8 Tribal healer
9 Green land
10 Actor Rickman
11 Snitched
16 Wood choppers
19 Alamo rival
20 Luau dance
21 Portent
22 Creates origami
23 Iowa city
25 Estate recipient
26 Mirage
27 Campus VIP
28 Tools with teeth
30 Con job
33 You can count on one
34 Bottle stopper
36 Himalayan land
37 Actor Kinnear
38 Crazy
39 To be, in Tours
40 Olympian queen
42 "Casablanca" pianist
43 Calendar abbr.
44 Wee dollop
45 Mexican Mrs.

Solution time: 25 mins.

C	I	C	M	■	O	I	M	■	P	O	N	Y
A	I	D	A	■	R	C	E	■	A	M	I	D
R	V	F	R	■	A	N	G	■	D	I	N	S
B	E	N	I	G	N	■	A	O	U	T	■	■
■	■	■	N	I	G	H	T	W	A	T	C	H
D	O	S	A	S	■	Y	O	N	■	I	R	A
A	R	C	S	■	J	F	N	■	S	N	U	G
M	E	R	■	M	E	N	■	S	A	G	E	S
S	M	A	R	T	W	A	T	C	H	■	■	■
■	■	P	A	G	E	■	H	I	A	T	U	S
B	R	E	D	■	L	I	E	■	R	E	S	T
I	E	R	I	■	E	I	S	■	A	L	M	A
S	O	S	O	■	R	E	E	■	N	E	A	T

Yesterday's answer 7-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, 26; Malala Yousafzai, 27; Kimberly Perry, 41; Topher Grace, 46.

Happy Birthday: Pay attention to domestic expenditures. Fine-tune your routine and cut back where you can. An innovative approach to how you live, operate and conduct your affairs will determine the outcome. Prevent anyone from taking advantage of you or overstepping boundaries that can cost you financially or emotionally. It's up to you to make the first move and to see your plans through to the finish line. Your numbers are 3, 12, 20, 26, 32, 38, 49.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Mix and mingle, explore your community and make peace your mantra. How you get along with others will determine how much impact you will have. If you use your ingenuity to cut corners, a change will bring financial gain. Make socialization, entertainment and romance your priorities. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Observe rather than interfere. Being stubborn won't help you win a debate. Pay attention to your spending habits, and create a budget to help you avoid debt and stressful situations. A positive change will parlay into support and the ability to get things done. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Take it upon yourself to update your look or improve your surroundings. Dealing with children, parents and close friends with love and support will encourage them to confide in you. The knowledge you acquire will help you do what's right and gain respect. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22)*: Take a deep breath and prepare to move forward. Fact-check, then question your motives to ensure you are on the right path and not on an emotional joyride. Success requires discipline, fair play and an understanding of what to do and how to gain support. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Share stories. If you offer an exciting adaptation of something you encounter, your popularity will soar. Look for opportunities to network and mix business with pleasure. You can apply pressure if you do so in an amicable manner. Shoot for the stars and make romance a priority. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Lower anxiety; don't overload your plate or indulge in something unnecessary or costly. Focus on the adjustments that will ease stress and make your life simpler and more affordable. Learn from mistakes and set boundaries if someone pressures you or takes advantage of you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Express your desires, speak from the heart and make travel, participation and helping others your mission. A positive personal or physical change will encourage a better response from those you encounter and promote additional opportunities. Go to where the action is. Love is favored. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take care of business, live up to your promises and let your actions speak for you. Deep discussions will lead to unnecessary repercussions. Take the road less traveled and put some muscle behind your intentions. A change of plans will turn out better than you anticipate. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Don't share personal information. Someone will twist your words or use them against you. Focus on money, health and contracts. Read the fine print, and stick to your plans and budget. A financial gain is apparent. Romance and shared expenses are favored. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Participate and experience what life has to offer in your community. Distance yourself from anyone using hype and pressure tactics to take advantage of you. Invest in yourself, not someone else. Learn from the rhetoric you hear and adjust it to fit your needs. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)*: Concentrate on home, family and efficiency. Declutter and make room for something you want to pursue. Speak up and ask questions, and you'll receive input that helps you implement a plan. A physical change will result in better health and confidence. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Change can be advantageous if you stick to a budget. Discipline and originality will play roles in your success. Look at the big picture and change only what's necessary. Say no to temptation and overindulgence. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are original, persistent and opportunity-driven. You are outspoken and unpredictable.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

1						5		4
2	6		9			8	1	
7			5			2		1
4	2				6			
	8							
5				3		7		
			6				3	9
		6			7		8	

Difficulty: ★★★★ 7/12

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	6	5	4	7	1	9	3	2
7	4	1	9	3	2	6	5	8
3	9	2	5	8	6	1	4	7
6	3	8	1	5	7	4	2	9
1	5	4	2	6	9	7	8	3
9	2	7	3	4	8	5	1	6
4	8	9	7	1	3	2	6	5
5	7	3	6	2	4	8	9	1
2	1	6	8	9	5	3	7	4

Difficulty: ★★★ 7/11

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SUE WON A NICE JACKPOT! **Solution: 8 letters**

F	I	N	A	N	C	E	G	A	T	N	A	V	D	A
O	A	W	A	R	D	S	S	S	E	C	C	U	S	M
R	E	V	A	S	T	I	C	K	E	T	D	P	T	O
T	T	V	O	A	E	U	L	A	V	R	I	H	R	U
U	T	P	R	R	F	R	E	E	A	N	O	S	A	N
N	E	A	E	I	C	C	W	W	O	U	S	S	T	T
E	L	Y	S	C	A	Y	E	I	S	W	H	E	E	L
T	U	M	O	H	R	R	T	A	N	T	O	U	G	S
A	O	E	R	E	D	I	N	C	C	N	W	G	Y	A
R	R	N	T	O	T	D	I	E	A	H	E	O	E	G
B	N	T	N	E	Z	I	R	P	W	P	A	R	N	E
E	O	A	P	O	K	E	R	O	C	S	I	R	O	V
L	T	M	Ⓗ	Ⓢ	Ⓐ	Ⓒ	O	N	T	E	S	T	M	S
E	O	N	L	I	N	E	N	I	H	C	A	M	A	A
C	H	A	N	C	E	M	A	G	A	M	B	L	E	L

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Advantage, Amount, Award, Capital, Cash, Celebrate, Chance, Charm, Competition, Contest, Cruise, Donate, Favor, Finance, Fortune, Free, Gamble, Game, Guess, Las Vegas, Lottery, Machine, Money, News, Online, Payment, Poker, Prize, Resort, Reward, Rich, Roulette, Save, Score, Show, Spin, Strategy, Success, Thousand, Ticket, Value, Wheel, Winner

Yesterday's Answer: Magicians

The NEW **TELEWORD VINTAGE COLLECTION EDITION #1** can be purchased on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)

NBA agrees to terms on record 11-year, $76M media rights deal

By TIM REYNOLDS and JOE REEDY
AP SPORTS WRITERS

The NBA has agreed to terms on its new media deals, a record 11-year agreement worth $76 billion that would assure player salaries will continue rising for the foreseeable future and one that will surely change how some viewers access the game for years to come.

A person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press that the networks have the terms sheets, with the next step being for the league's board of governors to approve the contracts.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity Wednesday because they weren't at liberty to discuss such impending matters.

There is a board of governors meeting in Las Vegas next week, coinciding with NBA Summer League, and it would seem logical that the deals—if they get through various committees and obtain other approvals—may be finalized around that time.

The NBA did not comment Wednesday.

The deal, which set NBA records for both its length and total value, goes into effect for the 2025-26 season. Games will continue being aired on ESPN and ABC, and now some will be going to NBC and Amazon Prime. TNT Sports, which has been part of the league's broadcasting family since the 1980s, could be on its way out, but has five days to match one of the deals.

The five-day clock would begin once the league sends the finished contracts to TNT.

The Athletic was the first to report on the contracts.

ESPN and ABC will continue to have the league's top package, which includes the NBA Finals and one of the conference finals series. ABC has aired the NBA Finals since 2003. ABC would continue to air games on Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons when the NFL's regular season ends.

ESPN's main nights would continue to be Wednesday with some Friday and Sunday games.

Exclusivity of the Finals comes with a big price increase. Walt Disney Company, which owns ESPN and ABC, will pay $2.6 billion per year under the new contract compared to $1.4 billion in its current deal.

The return of NBC, which carried NBA games from 1990 through 2002, gives the league two broadcast network partners for the first time.

NBC — whose deal is expected to be $2.5 billion per season—would showcase games on Sunday night once the NFL season has ended. It will air games on Tuesdays throughout the regular season while a Monday night package of games would be exclusively streamed on Peacock.

Prime Video would have games on Thursday night after it is done carrying NFL games. Its other nights would be Friday and Saturday.

AP

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver talks to reporters before Game 1 of basketball's NBA Finals between the Boston Celtics and the Dallas Mavericks, Thursday, June 6, 2024, in Boston.

NBC and Prime Video would alternate who carries the other conference final. Prime Video's rights would average $1.8 billion per year.

TNT Sports is paying $1.4 billion per season. Considering the amounts of the three proposed packages, that would make the Prime Video rights the ones it would be likely to try and match.

The length of the deals — he did not confirm the 11-year agreement specifically—are "good for the stability of the league," Silver said during the NBA Finals last month.

"But it means to a certain extent you're trying to predict the future, which is of course impossible," Silver said in June. "So part of it is a bet on the partners that we will ultimately align with and their ability also to adjust with the times and their willingness to continue to invest in media and also become global, which to my earlier point is very important to the league, as well."

In the short term, the deal almost certainly means the league's salary cap will rise 10% annually—the maximum allowed by the terms of the most recent Collective Bargaining Agreement between the NBA and its players. That means players like Oklahoma City's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Dallas' Luka Doncic could be making around $80 million in the 2030-31 season and raises at least some possibility that top players may be earning somewhere near $100 million per season by the mid-2030s.

It also clears the way for the next major item on the NBA's to-do list: Expansion.

Silver was very clear on the order of his top agenda items in recent seasons, those being preserving labor peace (which was achieved with the new CBA), getting a new media deal (now essentially completed) and then and only then would the league turn its attention toward adding new franchises. Las Vegas and Seattle are typically among the cities most prominently mentioned as top expansion candidates, with others such as Montreal, Vancouver and Kansas City expected to have groups with interest as well.

As the broadcast rights packages have grown in total value over the last 25 years, so, too, have salaries because of how much that revenue stream ends up fueling the salary cap.

When NBC and Turner agreed to a $2.6 billion, four-year deal that started with the 1998-99 season, the salary cap was $30 million per team and the average salary was around $2.5 million. The average salary this season exceeded $10 million per player—and it's only going to keep going up from here.

When that NBC-Turner deal that started a quarter-century ago expired, the next deal—covering six seasons—cost ABC, ESPN and Turner about $4.6 billion. The next was a seven-year deal, costing those networks $7.4 billion.

The current deal, the one that will expire next season, smashed those records—nine years, nearly $24 billion.

And now, that seems like pocket change.

Derrick White replaces Kawhi Leonard on US Olympic men's basketball team

LAS VEGAS (AP) — USA Basketball intended to bring Kawhi Leonard to the Paris Olympics. After watching him play in a four-day training camp, they and the Los Angeles Clippers realized that the plan needed to change.

Derrick White of the NBA champion Boston Celtics is replacing Leonard on the U.S. team for the Paris, the first shakeup to a roster that was announced in the spring. The decision was made Tuesday, White accepted the invitation Tuesday night and USA Basketball announced the move Wednesday morning.

"He wanted to be here like all these guys want to be here," USA Basketball managing director Grant Hill said Wednesday night about Leonard. "And we don't take that lightly at all. It speaks to the program and the opportunity. Personally speaking, I know what it's like to want to do something and your body is just not right. And I've lived that personally. And so, I applaud him for coming here and being willing to sacrifice, give up his summer and represent our country and play for our program. It just ultimately didn't work out."

Leonard missed 12 of the Los Angeles Clippers' final 14 games this past season with right knee inflammation, though he said in recent days that he felt fine and the knee was doing well. But USA Basketball felt differently and, in conjunction with the Clippers, made the decision.

White, who accepted the invitation after talking with Hill on Tuesday night, averaged 15.2 points and 5.2 assists for the Celtics this past season. His selection gives Boston three of the 12 players on the U.S. roster; Celtics teammates Jayson Tatum and Jrue Holiday also are Paris-bound.

White is expected to be in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, in the coming days—plans are still being made—to join the U.S. squad. The team will fly to Abu Dhabi from Las Vegas on Thursday and is scheduled to practice there Saturday ahead of exhibition games against Australia on July 15 and Serbia on July 17. It's unclear if White will be there in time for Saturday.

"I don't feel like his role changes much with our team from what he does with the Celtics," Hill said. "He plays alongside two incredibly great young players, Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum. And this setting is hard when you come in and you're the center of your universe and now you have to establish a role and it might be different than what you have to do with your team. To have someone who can come in and play off of guys, be complementary to some others, but then also stand out ... we're excited."

Brown, on X, the platform formerly known as Twitter, posted this on Wednesday: "(at)nike this what we doing?" It seemed like an insinuation that Brown, who has been critical of Nike in the past, may have played a role in him not being selected for the Olympic team. Nike is a USA Basketball partner.

"This is about putting together a team," Hill said.

White—a second-team All-Defensive selection after this past NBA season, meaning he'll clearly take some of the on-ball defending duties that the Olympic team likely envisioned Leonard having—has some USA Basketball experience, including being part of the 2019 World Cup team that finished seventh in China. He and the Celtics agreed on a four-year extension worth nearly $126 million after the playoff run, one in which he led Boston with 65 made 3-pointers on a team-best 40.4% shooting from beyond the arc.

Leonard is a two-time NBA champion, six-time All-Star and six-time All-NBA player, but injury issues have been a recurring theme in his career. USA Basketball had monitored him closely in recent weeks, making sure he was doing well enough to be on the court after his season with the Clippers ended prematurely.

He has missed 256 regular-season games over the last seven years, including all of the 2021-22 season with knee trouble. He appeared in 68 games this past season for the Clippers, his most since playing in 74 for San Antonio during the 2016-17 season.

"This is just my journey," Leonard said earlier this week, discussing his injuries. "I can't lay out the perfect script for me. Last year I tried to play as much as possible, felt great and at a certain period of time I couldn't go. I tried the best that I could, but it's just my journey. I don't want to be in a situation that (I'm) in, but I've got to take it for what it is. And a lot of people are watching, supporters or doubters. But I motivate a lot of people, so I've got to keep doing what I'm doing."

Leonard—part of a 592-person Olympic team formally named by the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee earlier Wednesday—had said earlier this week that his knee was fine and he was able to resume on-court training about three weeks ago to get ready for the Games.

"I'm ready to go," Leonard said then. "I'm playing now so, I'm happy."

A couple of days later, hours before the first U.S. exhibition game against Canada and one day before the team departs for Abu Dhabi—the first of two international stops for more games and practices before arriving in France for the Olympics—Leonard was gone.

Leonard's departure leaves the U.S., at least until White arrives, with 10 available players. Kevin Durant will not play against Canada because of a calf strain and could not compete in the team's four-day training camp in Las Vegas that ended Tuesday. USA Basketball is working under the expectation that Durant will be ready for increasingly more on-court activity in the coming days.

"He has been working, rehabbing, he's looked great," Hill said about Durant. "I think we're just being cautious and conservative. We expect to see him over on the court when we're in Abu Dhabi, at some point."

Rybakina beats Svitolina to reach semifinals; Krejcikova next

LONDON (AP)— Elena Rybakina knows people see her as the favorite to win her second Wimbledon title.

The 2022 champion's 6-3, 6-2 victory over No. 21 Elina Svitolina to reach the semifinals on Wednesday will only bolster that view.

"Definitely, I have an aggressive style of game. I have a huge serve, so it's a big advantage," she said in an on-court interview. "Of course I want to go until the the end, but match by match. For now, I'm happy with the way I am going."

The 25-year-old Rybakina—at No. 4 the highest seeded woman left in the draw—had seven aces and 28 winners to improve her record at the All England Club to 19-2.

Rybakina will next face No. 31 Barbora Krejcikova, who reached her first Wimbledon semifinal by eliminating No. 13 Jelena Ostapenko 6-4, 7-6 (4) in a match between former French Open champions.

Krejcikova, who won the title at Roland Garros in 2021, trailed 4-1 in the second set but managed to recover.

Ostapenko, who hadn't dropped a set on her run to the quarterfinals, instructed her coach to leave during the second set but it ultimately didn't help the 2017 French Open champion.

"It's a great moment for me," said Krejcikova, who is from the Czech Republic. "It's an unbelievable moment that I'm experiencing right now."

AP

Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan plays a backhand return to Elina Svitolina of Ukraine during their quarterfinal match at the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

Krejcikova had struggled with injuries and illness earlier this season.

"There have been many doubts from the inside, but also from outside—from the outside world—but I'm super happy than I never gave up and that I'm standing here right now," she said.

Svitolina, a Ukrainian who is a two-time Wimbledon semifinalist, was not wearing a black ribbon as she did in her fourth-round match to mourn victims of Russian missile attack.

Queen Camilla was in attendance for their Centre Court match, but neither player realized it, they said later.

Svitolina said it was "a big privilege to play Wimbledon in front of the queen, even though I didn't know. The support that Ukraine been getting from United Kingdom been really unbelievable."

As for the match, Svitolina said Rybakina's game is more than just a big serve.

"Elena is someone that also returns quite good, especially on grass. I mean, grass is such a difficult surface already to return. Then when you have someone who hits the spots good, it's extremely difficult," she said.

Plus, Rybakina is more relaxed compared to two years ago when she beat Ons Jabeur for the Wimbledon title.

"In 2022, I was definitely more nervous than now," she said. "It was the first time for me to play on Centre Court. It was a lot of people, a lot of attention. Now, of course, I got used to it a little bit. I'm taking these matches in a different way."

Djokovic moves into semifinals when de Minaur withdraws

LONDON (AP)—Novak Djokovic got a free pass into the Wimbledon semifinals on Wednesday when his quarterfinal opponent, Alex de Minaur, withdrew with a hip injury.

De Minaur, an Australian who was seeded ninth at the All England Club, announced he was pulling out of the tournament hours before he and Djokovic were scheduled to play each other at Centre Court.

"Obviously not an announcement I wanted to make, by any means," de Minaur said at a news conference. "I'm devastated."

He explained that he heard a crack toward the end of his 6-2, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 fourth-round victory over Arthur Fils on Monday. De Minaur walked gingerly to the net when that match ended, but he downplayed the severity of things when he spoke to the media afterward.

The walkover places Djokovic in the Wimbledon semifinals for the 13th time, equaling Roger Federer for the most by a man in tournament history.

The second-seeded Djokovic has won seven of his men's-record 24 Grand Slam titles at Wimbledon.

Djokovic will face Taylor Fritz or Lorenzo Musetti on Friday for a berth in the final.

The extent of the injury was clear from medical exams on Tuesday, de Minaur said, but he wanted to at least give it a shot and try to play, if at all possible. But it was clear during a practice session on Wednesday morning there was no way he could compete.

He said he barely could walk before a match that would have been de Minaur's first quarterfinal appearance at Wimbledon. He made it that far at the French Open last month, too.

"It's no secret that, at this stage of my career, this was the biggest match of my career. So wanted to do anything I could to play," de Minaur said. "I knew what the results were yesterday, but I still wanted to wake up today and feel some sort of miracle and not feel it while I'm walking."

He said he was told that he could make his hip worse if he played another match.

"The problem with me going out and playing is that one stretch, one slide, one anything, can make this injury (recovery) go from three to six weeks to four months," de Minaur said. "It's too much to risk."

Injuries adding up at Wimbledon and determining outcomes of matches

LONDON (AP)—There's no single explanation, of course, for all of the injuries to players in the latter stages at Wimbledon this year. This much is certain: The timing could hardly be worse.

The man Novak Djokovic was supposed to face on Wednesday, Alex de Minaur, withdrew hours before their scheduled quarterfinal because he jarred his hip at the end of a victory two days earlier.

"I'm devastated," de Minaur said. "The problem with me going out and playing is that one stretch, one slide, one anything, can make this injury (recovery) go from three to six weeks to four months. It's too much to risk."

Taylor Fritz's fourth-round opponent, Alexander Zverev, slipped on an unworn patch of green grass in his previous match. That caused a bone bruise—and maybe worse—that Zverev complained left him on "one leg" in his loss to the American at what the two-time major finalist characterized as a wide open opportunity to grab a first Grand Slam title.

Danielle Collins' last Wimbledon appearance before retirement ended with tape wrapped around her hamstring, the work of a trainer during the American's fourth-round loss to 2021 French Open champion Barbora Krejcikova. Collins chalked it up to failing to "think about every little step that you take."

"There's been a ton of injuries on the grass. Left and right, it seems like people are going down. I am, I guess, frustrated that I feel like I was focusing on my tactics and kind of what I needed to do to play at a high level. Usually, I feel like, on other surfaces you're not having to think so critically about your movement," Collins said. "The one second I take my mind off of it, not think about every little thing I'm doing with my footwork, it ends up happening."

The falls keep happening. The injuries are adding up.

"It's unfortunate, obviously," de Minaur said. "You never want to see this."

He called his mishap "more of a freak injury," related to the "excessive amount of force" used to slide on grass.

Madison Keys, the 2017 U.S. Open runner-up, was in tears when she stopped because of a hurt leg at 5-all in the third set of a Week 2 match against Jasmine Paolini, who reached Thursday's semifinals.

Emma Raducanu, who won the U.S. Open three years ago, withdrew from mixed doubles — which was supposed to be Andy Murray's last event at Wimbledon—because of a sore wrist, then needed a medical timeout later that day after falling in the third set of a singles loss.

No. 17 Anna Kalinskaya cited a bad wrist when she quit in her fourth-round match against 2022 champion Elena Rybakina. No. 10 Grigor Dimitrov retired from his fourth-round match against Daniil Medvedev with a leg problem.

"It's normal for the second week at Wimbledon to be feeling niggling things on your muscles, because it's tough — the grass, getting down low, coming into the net. It's more on the muscles than the joints on the grass," 2003 Wimbledon finalist Mark Philippoussis said. "So I'm sure lots of people will be feeling it now with little things here and there."

Count Djokovic among those who think part of the issue is that all of the rain during the tournament — so much that the mixed doubles final was shifted from Thursday to Sunday, and play began a half-hour earlier than usual on most courts Wednesday—has made the grass more slick and the footing less sure.

So has shutting the retractable roofs at Centre Court and No. 1 Court, the only two arenas with that luxury during wet weather.

"Once you close the roof, you know that the grass is going to be more slippery. So there's more chances that players will fall. Unfortunately, some of the falls have caused some of the players to withdraw," Djokovic said.

"It's part of this surface. You can't really change that," added the seven-time champion at the All England Club. "I mean, it's grass. It's a live surface, and it reacts to different conditions."

The pattern began at grass tourneys that preceded Wimbledon.

Marketa Vondrousova retired from a match in Berlin after hurting her right leg there. When she showed up at Wimbledon, she became the first defending champion in 30 years to lose in the first round and acknowledged: "I was a bit scared because of my leg."

The woman who beat her last week, Jessica Bouzas Maneiro, stopped at Wimbledon because of a back issue in the third round against Krejcikova.

Frances Tiafoe pulled out of the Queen's Club tournament before Wimbledon after spraining a ligament in his right knee when he took a tumble. Tiafoe played at the All England Club with a black sleeve over his knee and made it to the third round before losing to defending champion Carlos Alcaraz.

Djokovic tore the meniscus in his right knee during a match at the French Open, had surgery and returned to competition less than a month later. Ironically, he thinks it's possible that might have helped him stay upright this fortnight.

That's because, years ago, Djokovic was one of the first players to regularly slide on grass the way they do on clay. He has cut down on those movements this time at Wimbledon, being extra careful to avoid risking falls.

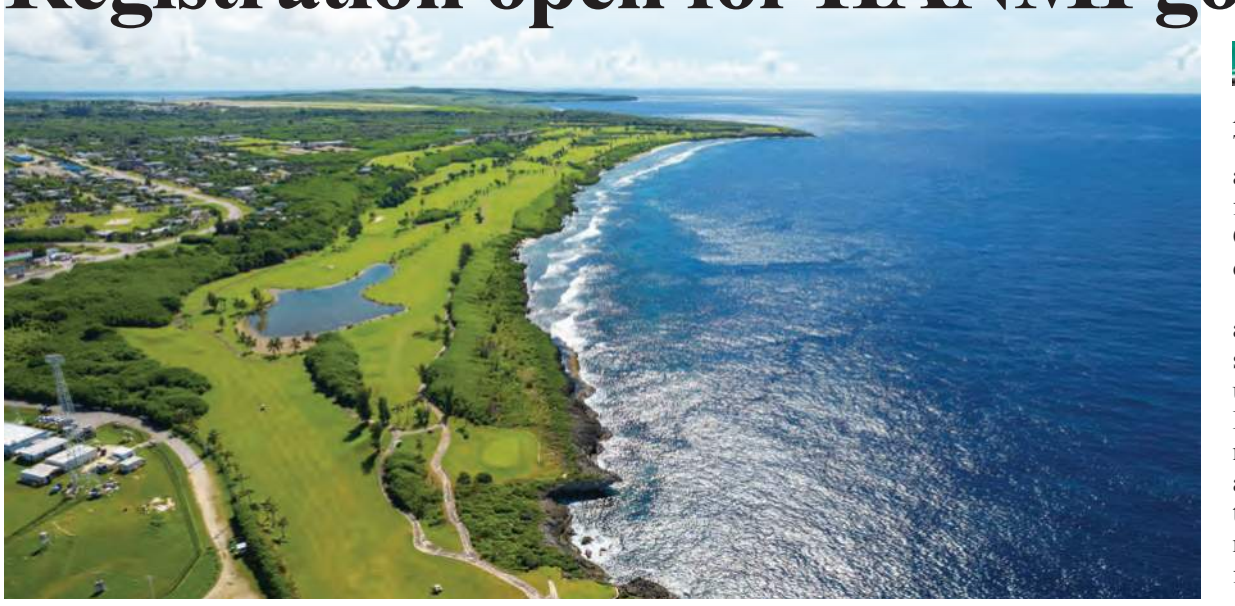
"It's probably part of my, I guess, different kind of movement on the court that I've been really experimenting with because of the cautiousness—because of the knee and everything that was happening prior to the tournament," Djokovic explained. "The first couple rounds, I was still not maybe willing to go (for difficult) balls and slide and make splits."

Other theories include: More and more baseline play on grass, and less serving-and-volleying, creates longer points and extra running, which translate into a greater likelihood of slips; less comfort on grass because players tend to grow up practicing and competing on clay or hard courts; and a brief grass portion of the schedule that doesn't allow for accumulating a lot of experience on the turf.

Then there's the general wear-and-tear of a season.

"Listen, tennis is a very physical sport at the moment. For sure, the rallies are longer. Matches. Scheduling. Finishing late," 2006 Australian Open finalist Marcos Baghdatis said. "It's very demanding on the body. ... A lot of things are changing that (contribute) to players getting injured."

Registration open for HANMI golf tourney



COP

The 22nd Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament will be held on Aug. 24, 2024, at Coral Ocean Resort in Saipan, the Marianas.

Registration is now open for the 22nd Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament on Aug. 24, 2024, at Coral Ocean Resort Saipan. Registration forms are available at COR clubhouse, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan front desk, and at www.saipanhotels.org.

"Registration is now open, and we are inviting everyone—our sponsors, our players, visitors—to sign up today!" said tournament chair Das Krishnan. "We have a wonderful tournament planned with great prizes, and an incredible committee from our hotels bringing it all together. So please, register early and mark your calendars for Aug. 24!"

The early bird tournament fee is $110 for CNMI residents and includes an awards banquet at Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan's Ataari Dinner Show. Optional play is $30. The fee increases to $130 after the early bird deadline on Aug. 10, 2024. Registration fee for non-CNMI residents is $180 (also includes green fee and awards banquet). Optional play will include accurate drive (hole No. 16), circle (No. 6), longest drive (No. 18), and four chances for nearest to the pin (holes No. 3, 7, 12, and 14). Showtime is 6am, and the tournament will start at 7am.

Early hole-in-one prizes include $5,000 cash from Island Training Solutions. The tournament will be open to the first 144 paid registrants. The tournament follows a blackjack double Peoria format.

For more information, contact tournament chair Das Krishnan at (670) 483-6405 or das.krishnan@ihg.com. ***(PR)***

Påtgon Protégé Jiu Jitsu tourney this Saturday in Guam

Pacific Grappling Events is excited to announce the upcoming Påtgon Protégé Jiu Jitsu Tournament, scheduled for this Saturday, June 13, 2024, at the Micronesia Mall Center Court.

Whether you're a seasoned enthusiast or just curious to learn more about Jiu Jitsu, this event offers a fantastic opportunity to witness the skills and dedication of these young competitors as they take to the mat. Best of all, admission is free to the public, making it a perfect outing for families and individuals alike.

This event will feature summer superfights from Påtgon competitors nominated for this event, with matches starting at 11:30am. Exhibitors, including gyms and jiu jitsu academies, will be present at the event for attendees to learn more about the various sports and fitness options in Guam.

This event is organized by Pacific Grappling Events and sponsored by Micronesia Mall, GTA, MM Theatres, Burger King, Fresku, and Coast360 Federal Credit Union.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Micronesia Mall for providing our youth with a wonderful opportunity to showcase their skills and techniques in Jiu Jitsu. Their support has been pivotal in allowing us to share this art form with our island community, fostering a sense of unity and enthusiasm among both participants and spectators. Special thanks go out to our generous sponsors: Micronesia Mall, GTA, MM Theatres, Burger King, Fresku, and Coast360 Federal Credit Union. Their contributions have made this event possible and have had a significant impact on its success. Their commitment to supporting local youth and promoting healthy, constructive activities is deeply appreciated. This event will not only highlight the incredible talent within our community but also reinforce the importance of collaboration and support in achieving shared goals. We are thankful for your continued dedication and look forward to many more successful events in the future. Thank you once again for your invaluable support," said Pacific Grappling event coordinator Jayronne Gandaoli. ***(PR)***

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za Northern Marianas Open 2024, No. 4 seed Japan's Kaoru Sugiyama quickly discarded Chinese Taipei's Yuan Chi Liao, 21-11, 21-8.

Women's No. 3 seed Sih Yun Lin advanced after beating Malaysia's Arena Samin, 21-12, 21-19; No. 5 seed Akari Kurihara defeated Shaunna Li, 21-12, 21-13; No. 6 seed, Japan's Riko Gunji made light work of Yi-Ting Hung, 21-14, 21-13; and No. 8 seed Asuka Takahashi eliminated Yu Wei Peng, 21-17, 21-9.

In the men's division, No. 3 Justin Hoh had a close call against Jia Wei Koh, but still won, 21-17, 21-19; and No. 7 Yu Huang crushed Hing Long Wong, 21-7, 21-15.

In the upsets, unseeded Ping-Hsien Huang went into super tiebreakers in a thrilling second set against No. 6 seed Shogo Ogawa and won, 21-16, 24-22; unseeded Ryoma Muramoto eliminated men's No. 8 seed Saran Jamsri in two sets, 21-13, 21-13;

At press time, not all matches are done.

In doubles matches, mixed doubles partners No. 1 seed Hiroki Nishi and Akari Sato smashed their way past Kyung Hoon Park and Yu Jung Kim, 21-15, 21-18; Yu Hsiang Chou and Chu Yun Yang eliminated No. 4 seed Edward Lau and Shaunna Li, 21-13, 21-13; Yuichi Shimogami and Sayaka Hobara stunned No. 3 seed Kai Wen Cheng and Chiao-Yun Liu, 21-13, 21-18.

The finals are set for Saturday, July 13.

LEIGH GASES

Singapore's Khan Insyirah in action during her three-set bout against women›s No. 2 seed Hsiang Ti Lin yesterday in the Badminton World Federation Grade 3 International Challenge tournament—the Dove Saipan International 2024—at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

GMP

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Both teams sported a 1-0 record and the undefeated record to start the league off hung in the balance, so as the final minutes dawned on the court, the intensity only heightened.

Yuman's Jether Medina and Justine Enano were a duo to be reckoned with as they took turns at the basket. Sean Licayan, Carl Aldan, and Jude Tengco also released bullseyes to get their scores in double digits.

In the end, Medina led Yuman with 20 points, while Enano was right behind at 18. Licayan contributed 15. For Savemore, Malinay put up 18 markers and Jandoc and Lucero had twin 16s.

Also last Sunday, Team Underground kept afloat against Star Water, 108-64; Jacob's Bakeshop burned Triskelion, 78-71; and Islander Rent A Car drove to victory over Saipan Tigers, 97-60.

The Destroyers Basketball Club Invitational Basketball League 2024 is made up of eight teams and is played every Sunday at the Gillette Multi-Purpose Gymnasium.

GMP x Yuman 101 – Medina 20, Enano 18, Licayan 15, Aldan 12, Tengco 11, Banate 8, Atencio 6, E. Nuyles 5, K. Nuyles 3, Agustin 2, Ebello 1.

Savemore 98 – Malinay 18, Jandoc 16, Lucero 16, Macaraig 14, David 12, Binuya 10, Lauron 6, Natividad 6.

Scoring by halves: 44-46, 101-98.

SKY

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When Sandlot finally had their turn at the plate, they snuck two runs in to make it 2-9.

However, that was all they wrote as Falcons pitcher I.J. Teigita pitched a complete-game gem and held them down. The Falcons' offense wasn't done yet either after their second inning stretch, and they scored three more in the fourth.

When Sandlot failed to produce, the game was called off due to runmercy ruling.

In the standings behind the Falcons are the Cardinals with a record of 7-2; Padres are next at 5-1; Braves and Sandlot are both 5-3; Bandits are 4-2; Royals are at an even 4-4; Blue Jays are 3-4; Bears are 4-5; D-9er's and White Sox both are 2-5; Natives have no wins and seven losses; and Blue Shark are at nine losses.

LOCAL SCORES

SBL Standings

Falcons	8	0		
Cardinals	7	2		
Padres	5	1		
Braves	5	3		
Sandlot	5	3		
Bandits	4	2		
Royals	4	4		
Blue Jays	3	4		
Bears	4	5		
D-9er's	2	5		
White Sox	2	5		
Natives	0	7		
Blue Shark	0	8		

Destroyers League Standings

GMP x Yuman	2	0		
Islander Rent A Car	2	0		
Team Underground	1	1		
Jacob's Bakeshop	1	1		
Savemore	1	1		
Star Water	1	1		
Triskelion	0	2		
Saipan Tigers	0	2		

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	57	35	.620	–
New York	56	38	.596	2
Boston	50	41	.549	6½
Tampa Bay	45	47	.489	12
Toronto	42	50	.457	15
Central Division				
Cleveland	57	34	.626	–
Minnesota	53	40	.570	5
Kansas City	51	43	.543	7½
Detroit	44	49	.473	14
Chicago	27	68	.284	32
West Division				
Seattle	51	43	.543	–
Houston	48	44	.522	2
Texas	44	49	.473	6½
Los Angeles	38	54	.413	12
Oakland	35	59	.372	16

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division				
Philadelphia	60	32	.652	–
Atlanta	51	40	.560	8½
New York	46	45	.505	13½
Washington	42	51	.452	18½
Miami	32	60	.348	28
Central Division				
Milwaukee	54	39	.581	–
St. Louis	48	44	.522	5½
Pittsburgh	44	48	.478	9½
Chicago	44	49	.473	10
Cincinnati	44	49	.473	10
West Division				
Los Angeles	55	38	.591	–
San Diego	49	47	.510	7½
Arizona	46	47	.495	9
San Francisco	45	48	.484	10
Colorado	33	60	.355	22

Results

Kansas City 6, St. Louis 4, 1st game
White Sox 3, Minnesota 1, 1st game
Minnesota 3, White Sox 2, 2nd game
Seattle 2, San Diego 0
Detroit 5, Cleveland 4
Chicago Cubs 4, Baltimore 0
N.Y. Yankees 2, Tampa Bay 1
Oakland 5, Boston 2
Kansas City 8, St. Louis 5, 2nd game
Houston 9, Miami 1
L.A. Angels 7, Texas 2
Toronto 10, San Francisco 6

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA agrees to terms on record 11-year, $76M media rights deal.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Registration open for HANMI golf tourney.

PAGE 19

Top seeds escape, taste defeat

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

Some top contenders of the last Badminton World Federation Grade 3 International Challenge tournament—the Dove Saipan International 2024—escaped defeat and advanced to the next round, while some tasted it and were eliminated yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The men's No. 1 seed, 21-year-old Viren Nettasinghe of Sri Lanka, found his footing yesterday against India's Aryamann Tandon, after being extended to three sets last Wednesday.

In two swift sets, 21-18, 21-15, Nettasinghe has advanced further in this tourney compared to the previous Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2024 last week.

For the women's No. 2 seed, Chinese Taipei's Hsiang Ti Lin, she barely escaped the rallying clutches of unseeded Singaporean Khan Insyirah. It was a valiant fight until the end as 23-year-old Insyirah almost toppled the No. 2 seed in three tough sets, 12-21, 21-18, 17-21.

Then the women's singles champion of the Crowne Pla-

See TOP on Page 19

LEIGH GASES

Unseeded Chinese Taipei's Ping-Hsien Huang goes for a smash in his win against men's No. 6 seed Shogo Ogawa in the Badminton World Federation Grade 3 International Challenge tournament—the Dove Saipan International 2024—at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

GMP x Yuman survives Savemore, 101-98

LEIGH GASES

GMP x Yuman's Justine Enano attempts a free throw during their game against Savemore in the Destroyers Basketball Club Invitational Basketball League 2024 at the Gillette Multi-purpose Gymnasium last Sunday.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

GMP x Yuman survived Savemore, 101-98, in the Destroyers Basketball Club Invitational Basketball League 2024 at the Gillette Multi-purpose Gymnasium last Sunday.

It was a neck-and-neck game throughout as both teams were fresh off a win in the league's opening day last June 30.

Both teams had a mix of youth and experience and until the last seconds, the game could've gone either way. But Yuman's Raymond Atencio came in clutch to break the 98-98 tie in the final seconds. Then, Jayvan Ebello sunk a free throw to establish the 3-point lead that eventually won them the game.

The first half saw both teams trading baskets, with neither able to establish a significant lead. Savemore managed to eke out a narrow 2-point advantage by halftime, going into the break with a 46-44 lead, but Yuman was determined to turn the tide in the last half with renewed vigor.

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Sky-high Falcons remain untouched in SBL

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The sky-high Falcons are still untouched atop their first-place perch in the 2024 Tan Holdings-Saipan Baseball League after their eighth straight win last Tuesday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

The boys from the north side made light work of Sandlot, 12-2, as their bats and their pitching continued to scorch the diamond.

Sandlot pitching was no match to the Falcons' firepower early on as they could not get out of the second inning. After two runs scored for the Falcons in the first, they were hungry for more and pummeled Sandlot's pitcher and defense with hard hit balls.

Falcons' Ian Norita started the onslaught with a single and was immediately brought home on an RBI triple by Henry Aguon. Giovanni Mira then reached on an error and tore through the bases to make it to third.

J.J. Lifoifoi then took advantage of the runner in scoring position and walked—to put Jonathan Norita in the perfect place for RBIs. he scored two off a single to make it 6-0. Then, two more runs would score for a 9-0 game as Sandlot's pitching and defense continued to crumble.

See SKY on Page 19

LEIGH GASES

A Falcons player slides into home safely as Sandlot's catcher tracks the lose baseball during their game in the 2024 Tan Holdings-Saipan Baseball League last Tuesday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.